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30 April 1985

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GHANA

ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ITALY

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 27 Mar 85 pp 1, 5

[Article by Tetteh Quaynor]

[Text]

DR Kwesi Botchwey, Secretary for Finance and Economic Planning and the Italian Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr Mario Raffaelli yesterday signed an economic and technical co-operation agreement between Ghana and Italy.

The two sides also reviewed the state of mutual relations, particularly in the area of economic and technical co-operation within the framework of Ghana's Economic Recovery Programme.

In this connection, the Government of Ghana submitted a number of priority project proposals for consideration by the Italian government among which are a water and sewerage programme which the government is tackling with an IDA assistance to supply water to about 1.5 million people in the Accra-Tema metropolitan area.

The Ghanaian side requested the Italian Government to finance a part of the project with a soft loan of 3.7 million dollars which the Italian side expressed the willingness to co-finance on the basis of technical and economic evaluation.

Other areas where the Italian side agreed to help finance are a mechanisation programme for food production where the Italian Government is already helping and the financing of a Co-operative Tractor

Rehabilitation and Operational Maintenance Programme with a grant of 1.3 million dollars.

The Ghanaian team underlined the need for rehabilitation of a number of sub-stations of the Volta River Authority (VRA) and asked for the financing of the second phase of the project for which a soft loan of about C10 million will be needed.

The Italian team expressed its willingness to co-finance the project taking into account the evaluation being currently undertaken by the World Bank.

Technical assistance for an Aluminium Rolling Mill, extension of Power Grid to the northern sector of Ghana and the rehabilitation of Ghana's timber equipment of Italian origin were also areas where the two sides agreed to co-operate.

The two sides finally agreed to hold annual consultations to review economic and technical co-operation between their respective countries. The date and venue of the first meeting will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

Present at the meeting were Dr Bortei-Doku, Ghana's Ambassador to Italy, Mr Kwame Peprah, Secretary for Transport and Communications, Mr Louis Casely Hayford, Chief Executive of the VRA and Mr Luigi Durante, Italian Ambassador to Ghana.

GHANA

BRAZIL TO AID FOUR AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 29 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Adwaa Van-Ess]

[Text]

GHANA and Brazil have under an economic and technical co-operation finalised agreements in four fields, Dr I. K. Adjei-Mafo, Secretary for Agriculture, has disclosed.

The agreements cover irrigation and the setting up of a fertilizer formulation plant which would enable Ghana to produce her own fertilizer appropriate for her soil.

He was speaking to newsmen on arrival at the Kotoka International Airport yesterday from Brazil at the head of a three-member government dele-

gation.

Dr Adjei-Mafo said the others cover the protocol on the rehabilitation of the Asutsuare and Komenda Sugar Factories and the establishment of a soya beans project in the country.

The modalities of funding these projects he said are yet to be worked out.

The Agriculture Secretary also said Brazil would provide machines and technology while Ghana provides the cedi requirements for the projects which are scheduled to take off by the end of the year.

He observed that the Brazilians have an effi-

cient extension service system and said the two countries will soon undertake a joint exchange programme to enable Ghana to benefit from the Brazilian experience.

Dr Adjei-Mafo was of the opinion that banks in the country should be made to sponsor farmers more than those in the distribution sector, adding that a Brazilian team is expected in the country soon to advise how best Ghana can adopt the Brazilian system.

Other members of the delegation were Dr Kofi Awoonor, Ghana's Ambassador to Brazil and Col Seidu Ayuma, commander of the Second Infantry Brigade.

CSO: 3400/954

GHANA

IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT FROM BULGARIA IN ROUTE

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 21 Mar 85 p 8

[Text]

BULGARIA has shipped tons of irrigation equipment and medicine to Ghana in support of Ghana's national reconstruction programme.

The Bulgarian Ambassador in Ghana, Mr Kostadin Ghiaourov, announced this in Sunyani in an address read on his behalf by his First Secretary, Mr Nikolaus Tehonkov, at the inauguration of the Brong Ahafo Regional branch of the Ghana-Bulgaria Friendship Society (GBFS).

Mr Ghiaourov said the consignment is expected to arrive in the country soon.

He said because Bulgarians have great respect for the late Dr Kwame Nkrumah, First President of the Republic of Ghana, who visited Bulgaria in 1961, they were doing everything possible to consolidate and strengthen the cordial relations between the two countries.

Mr Ghiaourov, who is also Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, said the visit of the Bulgarian Prime Minister to Ghana in June last year and Ghana's participation in important celebrations in Bulgaria were steps in the right direction for Ghana and Bulgaria to cooperate in all fields of national reconstruction.

Mr Ghiaourov charged the Brong Ahafo branch of the GBFS to embark on commercial farming, as their contribution towards Ghana's green revolution. — GNA.

CSO: 3400/929

GHANA

POLITICAL EXILES REQUEST REVIEW OF CASES

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 20 Mar 85 pp 1, 4-5

[Text]

MORE Ghanaian exiles, including AFRC convicts, continue to take advantage of the government's reconciliatory offer for a review of their cases and to vindicate themselves of various charges brought against them by the state.

The latest to avail themselves of the opportunity include the former Inspector-General of Police, Mr B.S.K. Kwakye, and Ministers of State and Members of Parliament in the Limann Administration.

Mr Kwamena Ahwoi, Co-ordinator of Investigations, Vetting and Tribunals, who disclosed this to the Ghana News Agency in an interview in Accra yesterday, said about 90 exiles, including about 20 AFRC convicts, had either had their petitions processed or were at

various stages of processing.

According to Mr Ahwoi, the petitions of the AFRC convicts are currently under review by the Special PNDC Sub-Committee on AFRC Affairs while those of the others had been referred to the National Investigations Committee (NIC) and its sub-regional committees.

He said some of the exiles, mostly resident in Burkina Faso, Togo and Nigeria, were given safe-conduct documents to en-

able them to return home.

The exiles include Mr Charles Amankwaa, Popular Front Party (PFP) Member of Parliament for Manhyia, Mr James Isaac Asaman, Mr Dubique Konlaa, Alhaji Mohamed Tanko, Mr P. A. Dzila, Mr Hans Kofi Boni, Mr Patrick Anipare, Mr M. L. Awuni and Mr Emmanuel Arthur, All People's National Party (PNP) functionaries.

Others are Mr E. K. Agyekum, formerly of the Bank of Ghana, Mr T. D. Brodie-Mends, a Cabinet Minister in the Busia Government, Mr Marcus

Kwaku Demanya, a Pioneer Tobacco Company (PTC) distributor in the Volta Region, Mr E. K. Wiredu alias Nana Adu Gyamfi and Mr Kwasi Prempeh, Managing Director of Handyman Paints Limited, Kumasi.

Mr S. K. Kanda, formerly of the Ministry of Industries Science and Technology who was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment by the AFRC Special Court has also returned home and is to appear before the Special PNDC Sub-Committee tomorrow. — GNA

CSO: 3400/929

30 April 1985

GHANA

FRIMPONG WARNS ARMY ON ABUSES, DISCIPLINE

Accra GHANAIAAN TIMES in English 27 Mar 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by Janet Carboo]

[Text]

THE Force Sergeant-Major of the Ghana Armed Forces, Warrant Officer Class One, Isaac Frimpong, has called on soldiers to adhere to the discipline in the Army in order to make the country a better place to live in.

The Force Sergeant-Major said the Army would not allow those who would like to take the law into their own hands to stay, "because we want to make the Army a good place."

He was talking at the Castle yesterday to a gathering of soldiers who go on guard duty there.

Reminding the soldiers that the rigorous training and exercises that they went through before and after enlistment was to prepare them for the discipline that would be required of them in the course of their duty, the Force Sergeant-Major asked them to try and do the correct things at all times.

"Without discipline, there would be no Army", he stressed.

"Let us obey orders and do what our seniors tell us to do, because a house without a senior is not a proper house."

He touched on some of the unpopular acts by some soldiers and advised the soldiers to do well the work that was required of them instead of getting involved in activities that gave them unnecessary problems.

The Force Sergeant-Major cited instances when some military men had given out their uniforms and weapons to civilians to use in armed robberies.

He spoke against practices of some soldiers insisting on pay-

ing for commodities at less than their cost prices.

These, he said, amounted to a misuse of the uniform and they were acts that made the public speak ill of the institution.

In his contribution, the Organizing Assistant of the Armed Forces CDR, WO 1 Kwaku Sem Anderson, called on the military to use their position to help educate the people in their various fields.

For instance, he said, on a visit to their villages, it would be their duty not only to offer useful suggestion; they should also take the lead in community affairs in order to get the people involved.

Staff Sergeant Francis Jakpa, secretary to the Armed Forces CDR, on his part, elaborated on the changes from the PDCs and WDCs to CDRs, remarking that the change was a step in the right direction.

The CDR secretary said with the PDC and WDC, some people thought its membership was limited to a selected few who were there to defend a certain group of people.

"The CDR is for all who have the interest of the revolution and country at heart," he said.

CSO: 3400/955

GHANA

CHANGES MADE IN COCOA BOARD TO ENSURE HIGH YIELD

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 19 Mar 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

THE Ghana Cocoa Board has instituted certain drastic measures to ensure that the country's cocoa production reaches over 350,000 tonnes within the next three years.

Under one such measure, the board has scrapped off the Farmers' Services Unit under the Cocoa Services Division which hires out farm labour to cocoa farmers.

Fit-Lt Joe Atiemo, Deputy Chief Executive (Operations) of the COCOBOD, announced these at Breman Asikuma at the week-end when he presented awards to 65 district and illiterate society treasurers of the Produce Buying Company whose services have been withdrawn following the introduction of the Akuafu Cheque System.

He explained that the board had discovered that cocoa farmers did not derive the proper benefit from the hired labour due to lack of effective supervision.

In its place, the board has decided to attach a seven-member team of extension service personnel to every 3,000 acres of land under cultivation throughout the cocoa growing zones.

This is to ensure effective and reliable extension services to the farmers to increase yield.

Fit-Lt Atiemo said the extension service teams would comprise field assistants, mistblow-

er technicians, seed garden experts and labourers.

The Deputy Chief Executive announced that the aged personnel of the Farmers Service Unit would be retired under the restructuring exercise.

On labour, Fit-Lt Atiemo said negotiations were underway to increase the producer price of cocoa to such a level as to enable farmers to hire labour from the open labour market without relying on the Cocoa Services Division.

CSO: 3400/929

30 April 1985

GHANA

BRIEFS

COCOBOD TO STRESS COFFEE--Coffee nurseries are to be established in the Bepong zone the largest producer of Ghana's coffee, as part of intensified efforts by the Ghana Cocoa Board to boost coffee production. Mr Mac Bonsu, managing director of the Produce Buying Company (PBC) Limited who announced this at a meeting with coffee farmers at Kwahu-Bepong in the Eastern Region at the weekend, said the PBC would give every encouragement to farmers to sustain their interest in coffee farming. At the meeting, 98 retired society treasurers with the PBC in the Mkawkaw zone were presented with special awards of a certificate and a piece of was print each in appreciation of their services. Mr Bonsu said he was touring coffee producing areas to acquaint himself with farmers problems and to re-assure them of government's continued commitment to help them increase production. He said problems like lack of transportation, low producer price and finance among others had been identified and steps were being taken to rectify them. The Kwahu District Secretary, Dr N. Ababio-Apah, called on the COCOBOD to increase extension services to the farmers by organizing seminars to teach them new techniques. [Text] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 26 Mar 85 p 8]

CDR REORGANIZATION PROGRESSING--The Monitoring and Co-ordinating Department of the Office of the Political Counsellor for the Economic Development of CDR has embarked on a re-organization exercise of CDRs throughout the country. A statement from the Office of the Counsellor said in Accra yesterday that as a start, all CDRs at workplaces in the Greater-Accra Region whose tenure of office had expired should contact their district and regional secretariats for guidance. [Text] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 26 Mar 85 p 3]

CSO: 3400/954

KENYA

KOIGI'S CONTINUED PARTY MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONED

Nairobi THE EXPRESS in English Vol 2, No 1, p 3

[Letter from Publisher]

[Text]

RECENTLY, the Kanu National Executive Committee meeting under President Moi suspended a former Minister for Higher Education, Joseph Kamotho, and several other politicians, some from Nakuru district, from party membership.

The move is seen by observers as yet another of a series of measures which the President has initiated in his clean-up campaign to weed out disloyal elements from the ruling party. Eyebrows were raised, however, by the omission from the list of those suspended from Nakuru of former Nakuru North MP and ex-detainee Koigi wa Wamwere, an avowed Marxist. It is puzzling, to say the least, why the Nakuru Kanu branch did not submit Koigi's name for suspension by the committee considering his past record as MP prior to his detention.

While in Parliament, Koigi had never uttered a single word of praise for the Government of President Moi. Instead, he engaged himself systematically in sponsoring motions which advocated the total socialisation of the economy and land in true Marxist fashion. Koigi's

utterances to Nairobi University students in May, 1982 in which he said change in Kenya can only come about through the gun and his derogatory remarks about the President when speaking about corruption, were recorded and duly filed away by the Kenya Special Branch whose men covered the lecture talk *incognito*.

This was reported by The Express in its October edition. It was the first time ever that Koigi's unpublished remarks were brought to the attention of the public by this magazine. Similarly the reasons which led to Koigi's detention six days after the attempted coup of August 1, 1982 were reported for the first time by this magazine in the same edition. These reasons were divulged to this publisher by a high ranking member of the Government at the time, who although no longer holding a parliamentary office, is still in the good books of the President and the Government.

Considering all this, we are puzzled why the Kanu Nakuru branch failed to include Koigi in the list of those it recommended to the National Executive Committee for suspension. The public would like an explanation.

CSO: 3400/925

KENYA

SHIFTA LEADER STAMBUL SURRENDERS

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 29 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

The personal assistant to the leader "of the shifta movement known as Northern Frontier District Liberation Front," (NFDLF) based in Mogadishu, Somalia, surrendered to the North-Eastern Provincial Commissioner, Mr Amos Bore yesterday.

Mr Omar Mohammed Maalim Stambul, who is also the brother to Degoh Stambul the "leader" walked in unannounced into the PC's office and patiently waited in the reception as Mr Bore organised a reception committee.

He is expected to talk about his experiences in the movement and his activities at a press conference to be organised by the North-Eastern Provincial Information Officer.

Mr Stambul, speaking in the presence of the Deputy PC, Mr Alex Njue, and other senior security officers, said he escaped from Somalia where he had since 1964 been an aide to Mr Degoh Stambul, president of the liberation front.

After careful consideration of reports from Kenya, he had

decided to give himself up to the authorities in the hope that he would be allowed to settle with his family, which he left behind.

Mr Stambul told the PC that he was making arrangements to bring some members of his family to Kenya from Somalia as he had found his home area better than he had left it over twenty years ago.

Mr Stambul, clad in a loose cotton shirt and light trousers, looked unruffled as he sipped a soft drink while talking to the Press. He answered questions put to him with ease and did not show any signs of agitation.

He in particular appealed to his elder brother, the front leader, to close down the rebel's office which was still being manned by 28 members and return home and see how developed the land they wanted to "liberate" was.

The former dissident was advised to try and contact the remaining people and encourage them to come back. They would be protected from harm by the country's constitution.

Over 350 members of the front have come back to Kenya from Somalia, among them 18 ministers and senior officers. They include the 78-year-old vice-president, Mr Wako Hapi Taro, the finance minister, Mr Sheikh Ali Abdillahi, 47, the army commander, Brig Ali Fahir Ibrahim and Mr Sheikh Adam Bulman, a political advisor.

The surrender of Mr Stambul brings to 19 the number of senior officers who have quit the movement. (KNA)

CSO: 3400/947

KENYA

BRIEFS

ARINGO DENIES LUOS BRIBABLE--An Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Mr. Peter Aloo Aringo said Luo people were not for sale because they had their own principles to follow. Some people claim that Luos can be sold. "Let me tell you clearly that we have no price tag," he said. Aringo, who took five minutes lecturing his colleagues about the principles of the ruling Kanu said it meant one President, one party and one government. He wondered that in several Kanu recruitment meetings which he had attended, nobody bothered to explain to wananchi the meaning of Kanu and what it represented. He said the country had just come out of "political Mafia" which has threatened leaders and it was time for leaders to unite and help the president run the country. Aringo said during the time of "political Mafia" some leaders were seriously threatened and could not serve the country property. [Text] [Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 29 Mar 85 p 5]

TEA GROWERS EXCEED ESTIMATES--By the first half of the current KTDA year (July 1984-June 85) tea growers under KTDA had produced green tea leaves far more than had been estimated. The total estimated production as per January 31 this year stood at 147,022,055 kg, but the actual tea plucked and delivered at KTDA factories was 151,811,928 kg, 4.7 million kilogrammes better than expected. The leading districts were Murang'a which achieved 19 per cent of the estimated yield, Nyeri 111 per cent, Kirinyaga, 102 per cent, Embu 127 per cent, Meru 103 per cent and Nandi, 102 per cent. By January 31, 1985, Murang'a growers had delivered to KTDA 31,956,697 kilogrammes, while it had been estimated they would manage about 26,944,852 kilogrammes. Nyeri managed to pluck and deliver 17,615,596 kg, while the estimates stood at 15,911,689 kg. Kirinyaga farmers delivered 16,728,719, against an estimated 16,362,682 kg. KTDA had estimated about 5,944,159 kg for Embu, but the growers improved this estimate to 7,577,582. Meru managed 11,486,231 kg against the estimated 11,136,249 kg. Nandi had 1,632,588 kg while the estimated were 1,600,870 kg. Kiambu, Kericho, Kitale and KTDA nurseries performed below expectations. While it had been estimated that Kiambu would get a yield of about 15,465,133 kg, it only managed 12,363,532 kg. Kitale got 468,563 kg (505,554 kg); and the nurseries 495,150 kg (609,853). [Text] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 28 Mar 85 p 19] [Article by Patrick Ngugi]

FIRST AMBASSADOR TO IRELAND ANNOUNCED--Kenya has appointed its first ambassador to the Irish Republic. Mr Benjamin Kipkulei takes on the post in addition to his duties as High Commissioner in London. Mr Kipkulei presented his letters of credentials to President Patrick Hillory at a colourful ceremony in Dublin. He was met at his hotel by the Irish Republic's chief of protocol, and was driven in ceremonial style through the streets of the Irish capital, with an escort of motorcycle outriders and a battalion of the Irish Army. Mr Kipkulei was taken into the presidential palace by the Irish Cabinet Minister, Mr Peter Barry, for the ceremony. After chatting informally with President Hillory and conveying greetings from President Moi, the two men inspected a guard of honour and the band of the Irish Army played the Kenya national anthem. Although this is the first time that Kenya has had diplomatic relations with Dublin at ambassador level, the links between the two countries go back many years. There are a number of Irish Catholic priests and nuns working in Kenya, some of them since pre-independence days. The Irish Republic also has several doctors in the country. The republic buys substantial quantities of Kenya tea and coffee. [Text] [Article by Antony Denton] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 26 Mar 85 p 14]

CSO: 3400/925

LIBERIA

GENERAL KOLLIE URGES INVESTORS TO ASSESS COUNTRY'S BUSINESS CLIMATE

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 28 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[Text]

Deputy Vice Head of State Brigadier General Abraham D. Kollie, has called on potential foreign investors in Liberia to make personal assessment of the country's business climate and not to rely on "fabricated" stories in foreign newspapers by "enemies of the revolution".

General Kollie made the call recently when two Dutch businessmen, Mr. M.J. Jacob and Aiaana Edward, President and Financial Manager respectively of the International Investment Company (IIC), called on him at the Capitol.

The two investors arrived here recently to conduct feasibility studies for possible

investment in the country.

The Deputy Vice Head of State re-echoed government's commitment to protect investors in keeping with the nation's free enterprise system, and called on authorities concerned to institute measures aimed at attracting more investors into the country.

For his part, Mr. Jacob expressed his company's desire to establish a trade center in Liberia, and noted many investment opportunities existed in Liberia.

He said the company would be interested in investing in fisheries and logging, among others.

CSO: 3400/953

LIBERIA

DEBTORS DETAINED AT CAMP BELLE YALLAH

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 29 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[Article by G. Kparcon Nardoh]

[Text]

Several debtors of the Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation (LPMC) and the Liberia Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC) were yesterday ordered detained at the Camp Belle Yallah maximum prison in Lofa County by the Chairman of the Debt Collection Task Force, Defense Minister Maj/Gen. Gray D. Allison.

Four of the debtors, Messrs. Mamadee Kromah, Kamofa Fofana, Seika Keita and one of the Jabateh Brothers who owed LPRC over \$6.3 million, were sent to Belle Yallah because they neglected to make settlement, according to Chief of Staff Lt/Gen. Henry S. Dubar, who headed the LPRC debt collection team.

Justice Minister Jenkins K. Z. B. Scott who headed the debt collection team at

LPMC, said the number of debtors booked for imprisonment would be determined from a list of commitments he was preparing up to press time.

Among those who have already been dispatched to Belle Yallah are: Oscar Quiah, Augustine Tamba, President of the District Trust Corporation, and Moses Glay.

Defense Minister Allison said those sent to Belle Yallah would remain there until full settlement of their arrears is made.

Police Director Wilfred Clarke who headed the debt collection team at the National Housing and Savings Bank, said a little over \$155,600 was collected as interest due on loans, adding that a considerable number of debtors were paying.

The Debt Collection Committee chairman, Maj. Gen. Allison told the press that the time for talking was over and now was the time for action. He said the debt collection team had started off with a general appeal to debtors to pay up, but the response was not encouraging.

He said the Task Force exercised patience, tolerance and gave ample chance for the debtors to arrange with the Ministry of Finance, the Housing Bank and the two corporations for settlements, "but to our surprise, some of them ignored the plea to

honor their obligations."

The Defense Minister said government was not at war with the public, but added that something had to be done to serve as a deterrent to citizens and foreign residents who were bent on economic sabotage of the nation by refusing to pay millions of dollars they owe the state or state enterprises.

The Task Force Chairman has meanwhile given the remaining debtors up to this afternoon to settle their obligations, failing which they would be sent to Belle Yallah.

CSO: 3400/953

LIBERIA

NATIONALS IN GHANA DECLARE SUPPORT FOR DOE

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 28 Mar 35 p 8

[Text]

The Liberian community in Ghana has pledged its loyalty and support to Dr. Samuel K. Doe, Standard Bearer of the National Democratic Party of Liberia, (NDPL).

According to press secretary Patrick E. Kugmeh at the Executive Mansion, this was contained in a letter to Dr. Doe, signed by one paramount chief, and 14 sub-chiefs, representing the interest of over 5,000 Liberian citizens residing in Ghana.

In their letter to Dr. Doe, they said that the NDPL is the only party capable of ensuring unity, peace and justice for the Liberian people.

They praised Dr. Doe for his "leadership ability" and the able

manner in which he is steering the ship of state.

The Liberian citizens in Ghana also used the occasion to thank Dr. Doe and the Government of Liberia for the welcome and interest shown to the 124 Liberians who returned from Ghana recently. -- LINA

Meanwhile, the President of the Liberia Marketing Association (LMA), Mr. Ignatius Weah, has praised the Liberian Leader for his development efforts.

He noted that every Redemption Day anniversary Celebration has been marked by the dedication of market and other projects.

Mr. Weah was speaking Tuesday at the launching of the 1985 Redemption Day T-

shirts, lappas and shirts, as well as the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) registration cards at the association's headquarters in West Point here.

Mr. Weah said it was because of the interest Dr. Doe has manifested in the LMA that the association in July last year nominated him as their Presidential Candidate for the forthcoming general elections.

He said the LMA has taken interest in distributing NDPL registration cards to marketers and other citizens to demonstrate that their declaration on July 25 last year came from "the bottom of our hearts, and not out of emotion." -- LINA

CSO: 3400/953

LIBERIA

FULLAHS URGED TO UNITE

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 28 Mar 85 p 8

[Article by Gus D. Jaeploe]

[Text]

The newly-inducted acting governor of the fullah Community in Monrovia, Mr. Ahmed Bah, has appealed to Fulani nationwide to hold together in order to assist government in the overall development of the nation.

Mr. Bah who was speaking during his installation at the Monrovia City Hall on Sunday, said if the Fulani should embrace one another for the common good of national development, they and the Liberian people would live as one family.

Mr. Bah, a veteran pharmacist said, under his administration, the community would embark upon the improvement of health conditions of citizens and Fulani nationwide as its first priority in assisting to improve the living standards of the people.

Mr. Bah was inducted into office by Assistant Internal Affairs Minister for Culture and Legal Affairs, Mr. Beuford J. Taylor.

Speaking during the ceremony, Minister Taylor who deputized for Internal Affairs Minister Col. Edward K. Sackor, called on the Liberian Community to be united in order to maintain peace and unity in the society.

Mr. Taylor who is also Chairman of the Montserrado County Branch of the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL), praised the new governor, a veteran of the "Congo War", a brave soldier who risked his life while serving in the Liberian Frontier Force (LFF) at the time. The program was attended by government officials, muslim leaders, Fulanis, among others.

CSO: 3400/953

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

TWO ISRAELIS EXPLORE INVESTMENT--Two Israeli experts are here to hold discussions with government officials for possible investment in the country. The experts, Amram Ben-Zvi, land development consultant and Lazar Frintz, development and construction engineer, arrived here a week ago to present investment proposals to government. The experts have already held talks with Foreign Minister T. Ernest Eastman and Agriculture Minister Joseph N. Boakai, as well as officials of the public and private sector. Mr. Ben-Zvi comes from the Israeli-based multi-national company, Agridev, while Mr. Frintz is proprietor of a Construction and Development Corporation in Jerusalem. They are expected to depart for Israel this week. [Text] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 25 Mar 85 p 8]

CSO: 3400/953

30 April 1985

MADAGASCAR

THREE-PART SERIES ON BREAKDOWN OF REVOLUTION

Paris LE MONDE in French 21, 22, 23 Mar 85

[Serial article by Jacques de Barrin]

[21 Mar 85 pp 1,5]

[Text] 1. "Marx Is Not Everything..."

Tananarive—The notables and diplomats who one morning in January flocked to Ambohitsorohitra Palace for the traditional New Year's wishes ceremony had no idea of the kind of speech that was going to be made to, or rather inflicted on, them by Mr Didier Ratsiraka, the Malagasy chief of state, since lengthy passages of the presidential address did not fail to go over their heads! In this masterly lecture — backed by blackboard and pointer — was it not a question of Cartesian morals and Pythagorean philosophy?

In the middle of this esoteric expose, however, a little sentence did not seem right to the ears of many listeners: "For a country which, like Madagascar, has chosen socialism, it is perfectly normal, even indispensable, to be very familiar with the philosophical foundations of scientific socialism, the ideas of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Mao Tse-tung. But stopping with these authors alone seems to me not only incomplete, but particularly clumsy, even dangerous!" And MADAGASCAR-MATIN's editorialist dotted his i's: "It was a pleasure to hear the president say, as he did, for the first time without beating about the bush that Marx, Lenin, Engels or Mao are not everything."

Commentaries and interpretations were rife: "It's a diversionary maneuver to make people forget the harsh realities of the moment... a complete reversal... a wink in the direction of academicians... a warning to leftist intellectuals... the speech of a Cotier [coastal inhabitant] who wants to get the better of the Merinas of the high plateaus, nay, even that of a pedant who doesn't know how to behave with ordinary people."* There is some truth in all of these analyses,

* Inhabitants of the high plateaus and in the majority in Tananarive, the Merinas form a highly structured society of Asian origin with its own traditions and its old castes, whereas the "Cotiers," more often of African origin, have different customs. The distinction between Merinas and Cotiers is sometimes arbitrary and, above all, it does not express the complexity of Malagasy society. But the antagonisms between the two groups continue to play a role in the country's political and social life.

except for the fact that none of them puts its finger on the theme of the president's message, namely the necessary transformation of attitudes.

While he is getting ready to celebrate the 10th anniversary of his accession to power next June, Mr Ratsiraka with bitterness avers that the Malagasy have not been up to the hopes he had set on them, that it is a long way from the revolutionary dream to reality. He would have wanted his fellow citizens to be virtuous and disciplined, "like the North Koreans." This admirer of Napoleon and De Gaulle is not far from thinking that they are, on the contrary, behaving like "calves." He has even gone so far as to admit in private: "I'm ashamed for my people...."

The authors of the 1972 revolution, which overthrew the "neocolonial" regime of Mr Philibert Tsiranana, had a bit naively believed that by exchanging men and structures the situation would automatically improve.

"At that time we absolutely had to find a political theme round which to rally nationally; union was achieved by rallying round the slogan of the class struggle," explained Mr Rakotovo Razakaboana, a member of the Supreme Council of the Revolution (CSR), who has today reached the conclusion that "there is no place for Marxism in a profoundly deistic country."

Many recognize the fact: Since the 1972 revolution which freed them from their inhibitions and awakened in them a real independence of spirit, the people of Madagascar have been difficult to govern. They had gotten it into their heads that, henceforth masters of their destiny, any and all means to attain their goals were good. No sufficiently solid structure had been built on the ruins of the former regime that might have checked this relaxation of morals. There had been a mistake at the start.

The Lesson of 4 December

On that fine morning Admiral Ratsiraka tried to correct the course. Hence that almost pathetic appeal to a return to traditional values through the lessons of a few masters at thinking: Descartes for whom "virtue implies perfect control over one's passions," Pythagoras for whom the law of the universe is equilibrium and order, not voluptuousness, passion and disorder." Many Malagasy interpreted this speech as that of a leader who has failed in his undertaking and is appealing for help.

"Ratsiraka does not know how to handle the Malagasy," a resident of Tananarive commented. "It's a pity because what he's saying to them is worth being said." He is criticized for being "ill at ease." He is a Cotier who grew up in the capital, on the high plateaus, a Malagasy whose graduate studies kept him in France for a long time, a confirmed socialist who was raised by the good Jesuit fathers. Also against him is the fact that he is only 48 years old and is surrounded by collaborators of his generation. Now people here only have respect for the old, the wise. The chief of state has not succeeded in being pardoned for his youth....

God knows -- and it is appropriate to say so -- that Mr Ratsiraka, by dint of wanting to swim upstream, has not ceased to amaze his fellow countrymen, or even to worry some of his partisans, like Pastor Richard Andriananjato, the chairman of the pro-Soviet party, the AKFM [Congress Party for Malagasy Independence], who asks: "Do we have to take a step backward in order to better take a leap forward?" How astounded, in fact, many were to see the chief of state honor with his presence last 27 January an ecumenical rally organized on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the translation of the Bible into Malagasy and deliver a veritable homily in the form of a profession of faith. "I am a confirmed socialist; I accept Marxism in terms of its economical approaches, but I also firmly believe in God, even at the cost of my life," he asserted. "For several years now my speeches have found their roots in the Holy Scriptures.... Everything is coordinated by Providence; nothing has happened by chance.... God commands the world; may his name be blessed...." As if he wanted to harmonize his faith with life, he finally announced that he would not attend any "Joro," ritual sacrifice of zebus. A strange resolve for a man who likes to surround himself with the counsel of sorcerers!

MADAGASCAR MATIN, which is never late with a commentary as soon as the "boss" has spoken, commiserated with the lot of the "Christians of some socialist countries (who) have a thousand and one reasons for envying their Malagasy brothers and sisters in the face of the systematic and permanent muzzling of their faith in God." The president's sermon was not without ulterior motives in a country in which 90 percent of the inhabitants believe in Zanahary, the creator God of the Bible. Was it not necessary for the chief of state to ingratiate himself with the churches, which have set themselves up as a resistance force against the government in the face of "a situation that is deteriorating in all walks of life," as a recent pastoral letter emphasized? The signs of this unrest, according to the Catholic bishops: "An absence of truth, injustice, different forms of exploitation, trampling of [the rights of] others and regarding them as a negligible quantity, scorn for the lowly, an absolute refusal to see and listen to the aspirations of the great mass of the people."

The bloody beating received last 4 December by the "Tanora Tonga Saina" (TTS), the "enlightened youths," the government's thugs, eloquently illustrates this popular dissatisfaction. What at the start promised to be nothing more than a settling of accounts -- one more -- between these outlaws and the Kungu Fu experts who set themselves up as righters of wrongs very quickly degenerated into an abominable bloodbath. Drunk with vengeance, the anonymous mob thronged into the Pochard section of town, in the very heart of the capital, the lair of these hoodlums who with complete impunity have exacted money from, kidnaped, raped and killed anyone who falls into their hands, the poor as well as the rich. No quarter! "If we don't kill them now, they'll kill us tonight," the demonstrators shouted. The official count for this massacre at which the police were present without so much as stirring: 138 dead.

Unemployed young people, the TTS constitute a subproletariat which actively participated in the overthrow of President Tsiranana in May 1972 and which the government had sought to place under its control, then enlisted it in its service for all sorts of dirty jobs. Mr Ratsiraka's regime has specifically utilized these TTS to "take care of" all the riots it has had to deal with since

1975, with the result that these bands of hoodlums have ended up benefiting from collusion with the highest levels of the government. So it is really no accident that we have these past few years been witness here to a rapid development of the martial arts. In this climate of political violence was it not natural for everyone to concern himself with organizing his own defense?

"This Force of Inertia..."

With the economic situation contributing, things have reached such a state of delinquency that the chief of state has really been forced to admit that the revolution is on the skids and people are "balking" at socialism. "When a Malagasy sits down, it's all over," a resident of Tananarive noted. "There is no worse attitude toward the government than this force of inertia." We are somewhat at this point today. Mr Ratsiraka's concern is to set the machine in motion again without betraying the great principles inscribed in the "Red Book," without in the eyes of some passing for a "misbeliever in socialism."

We must admit that in 1975 Mr Ratsiraka inherited a country in a pitiful state, on the verge of anarchy, and that, by dint of his skilfulness and tenacity, he nevertheless succeeded in keeping its head above water, even in stabilizing it, without, however, having been able to impose on his partners — and this he regrets — the single-party system. He therefore had to create his own political party, the Vanguard of the Malagasy Revolution (AREMA), which holds 115 of the 137 seats in the National Assembly and which coexists with six other parties in a very loose National Front for the Defense of the Revolution. A way of trapping those who would be tempted to set up their own coalition.

The ideological crisis has spared no party and all of them suffer from internal dissension: There is an AREMA of the Right and an AREMA of the Left. Even in the MONIMA [National Movement for the Independence of Madagascar] — "Madagascar backed by the Malagasy people" — some challenge their leader, Monja Jaona, the "number-one" opponent of Mr Ratsiraka, against whom he ran in the November 1982 presidential election. This old political fighter is today no more than a symbol. He is convinced that he has the majority of the population behind him, but he no longer harbors any ambitions. "I am," he said, "a sort of prophet...."

When he acceded to power, people did not place much hope on his political future: Mr Ratsiraka has already hung on for 10 years. Up to now he has known just how far he can go, how to navigate among cross currents. He has realized that he has to handle "areas of freedom" with kid gloves, like so many alarm systems consisting of blinkers that keep him from going astray. So the Malagasy, who often pass for glib talkers rather than men of action, enjoy a certain freedom of expression. They manage to say a lot of things, but there is a way to say them.

The Tight Sergeant

Even if he wanted to, Mr Ratsiraka would have a hard time behaving like a dictator inasmuch as the political game forces him to use subtlety, even Machiavellianism, to maintain certain balances, specifically ethnic ones. While the chief of state can, because of his social origin and level of education, pass

as being "the most Merina-like of the Cotiers," it is nevertheless the case that the Merinas view him with suspicion and, by association, the inhabitants of Tananarive, whom they know make and break governments.

It is also impossible to ignore the power of the churches, and even more so that of the military. Coddled by the regime, the "old guard," trained in the French manner, seems to be loyal to it. But there is grumbling in the police militia -- 8,000 out of 30,000 men -- who fear that they will be politicized under cover of their possible integration into the People's Armed Forces. As for the young officers, who often come from modest backgrounds or the middle classes, they are in no way ignorant of the economic difficulties their people suffer from and they are beginning to stir up ideas! A significant incident: On the evening of 2 January in the capital, a rather tight sergeant took possession of an armored vehicle in order to "go and get Didier." His adventure ended up against a lamppost. A commentary by his comrades: "If he hadn't played the fool, he would have succeeded...."

The political edifice is made up of many decentralized mechanisms that check up on and paralyze one another: the CSR, the government, the Military Development Committee, etc. The weight of these structures as well as that of the interests they represent slows down the progress of the administrative machine, since there are so many interferences, orders and counterorders. But the chief of state is profiting from it since in distributing the tasks -- or rather the honors -- and material advantages that go with them in this way he lessens the risks which an ostensibly overly solitary exercise of power would make him run.

How far will Mr Ratsiraka be willing to go to save what can still be saved? He is a man of principle who will not make any spectacular about-face, but he is not a "free agent." He concluded alliances when he acceded to power and he is obligated -- or believes he is obligated -- to repay his debts. He is too concerned -- almost morbidly so -- for his personal safety, over which a Pretorian guard composed of about 1,000 North Koreans keeps watch, to take needless risks. There is something in the behavior of this admirer of Descartes that is not very Cartesian.

[22 Mar 85 p 7]

[Text] 2. "Operation Survival"

In power for nearly 10 years now, Mr Didier Ratsiraka does not seem to have imposed his revolution and must go on being evasive in a complex society. A confirmed socialist, he is today trying to correct fire by appealing to a return to traditional values (LE MONDE, 21 March).

Tananarive--Ragged little beggars have collapsed from lack of sleep on the steps of the big stairway that leads to the Place de l'Indépendance. On the terrace of City Hall, a burned-out hulk left as it was since the revolutionary riots of May 1972, squatters are drying out a few togs. Here and there makeshift shelters "have sprung up," made of badly put-together boards. Almost without shame, Tananarive displays its misery.

The capital, which has about 800,000 inhabitants, has doubled in size in 10 years. Its "floating" population — peasants who come and go as the opportunity arises — is estimated at nearly 200,000 individuals. Some even assert that, to put the regime to shame and expose the failure of its policy, some opponents are promoting vice to the point of luring the "low castes" from the rural areas to the big city.

It is true that shortages are less acute than in 1981; at that time the basic necessity products: rice, oil, soap, light bulbs, etc., had disappeared from the market stands. Today the stands are better stocked, but current merchandise is prohibitively priced for many pocketbooks. An unskilled worker or low-level white-collar worker earns on the average 20,000 Malagasy francs a month (about 270 French francs), barely over the guaranteed minimum wage. Or the price of a bottle of whisky or three medical prescriptions!

A "Horse Cure"

In the rural areas, isolated by a lack of roads fit for use by wagons, the situation is scarcely any more brilliant. Since there is no way of getting to the towns to sell their products and thefts of crops in the fields have become common, peasants have become resigned to living in strictly self-sufficient families, cultivating only the land they can be sure of keeping watch over.

In this economic context people scarcely trouble themselves with scruples. Everyone steals from everyone else and everyone mistrusts everyone else. It has become a commonplace to emphasize the deterioration of morals, the rise in banditry and the increase in corruption. On entering certain hospitals, one has to pay a "toll" to have access to free care. There is no profit that is too small, even if it is made at the expense of the poorest of the poor! All these acts are ascribable to what some call "operation survival."

World Bank experts make no secret of the fact: "The vigorous recovery efforts conducted by the government... represent socially intolerable consequences," they note in a recent report. In their eyes the purpose of the maneuver is "to as soon as possible return to a course of sustained economic growth likely to ultimately improve the standard of living of the population."

While the experts read signs of encouragement for the future in the indices, the man in the street notes that he does not have much of anything to stir in his soup pot. How long will this go on? Mr Didier Ratsiraka, the chief of state, has knowingly and courageously assumed a major political risk in consenting to administer his country a "horse cure." But is not the severity of the treatment on a par with the mistakes that have been made?

Even Mr Rakotonirina Manandafy, the chairman of the MFM [Militants for the Establishment of a Proletarian Regime] party — for putting the lowly in power — which at one time represented the leading, indeed leftist, wing of the revolution, today admits "that there is no other alternative but to stick to the language of truth with the people." And he adds: "Without economic efficacy we cannot guarantee our independence."

What can we say, for example, about this "all-out investment" policy, launched in 1978 on the eve of the oil crisis because there was at the time a bit of money in the banks and funds? Projects that were operated for a short time — tanneries, an oilworks, a fertilizer plant, etc. — have oddly enough increased the country's foreign debt. They began to be aware of this fiasco, aggravated by the rise in value of the dollar, about the mid-1980's. It took over a year for the chief of state to convince the ideologists of a sound economy [of the need for] reorganizing things. "It was hard, hard," noted Mr Rakotovo Razakaboana, the chief counselor of the revolution (CSR), who was then minister of finance and the economy and who in January 1982 relinquished his post to Mr Pascal Rakotomavo, a man who came from the world of business. A turning point.

Since then, both the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have only been able to congratulate themselves on the assiduousness with which the Malagasy authorities have followed their advice. The classic and complete panswer in this kind of situation: monetary adjustments, limitation of state expenditures, raising of public tariffs, increases in farm prices and production, elimination of consumer subsidies and liberalization of the marketing of rice and the prices of certain industrial products. In the final analysis, in "macro-economic" terms encouraging results: the trade balance deficit cut in half between 1980 and 1983, the balance of payments deficit during the same period lowered from 17 to 9 percent of the GDP and the growth rate once again positive at 0.8 percent in 1983. On the other hand, these cleanup measures were accompanied by a drop in investments and a sharp rise in the cost of living.

The Malagasy Government does not intend to stop in the middle of such a favorable course of action. Its "plan for the rehabilitation and profitable application of existing capital" (1984-1987) provides for an average annual increase of 3 percent in the GDP. To accomplish this, they will have to set the industrial sector, which is operating at about 30 percent of its capacity, in motion again. With respect to this, the World Bank has just granted a loan of \$40 million, which will particularly serve to provide businesses with raw materials and spare parts. Mr Rakotomavo has, moreover, given the IMF his pledge to remove price controls on two-thirds of all industrial products between now and the end of the year. And lastly, he is putting the finishing touches on the formulation of a new investment code.

Working for Themselves

Is the private sector henceforth being called on to play a merely representative role? "We are moderately optimistic," Mr Andre R maroson, the president of the FIV MPA MA [expansion unknown], an association of small and medium-sized businesses. He admits that, since his meeting with the chief of state in January 1983, relations with the government have eased up. But he expressed his wish for the "concrete application of this political determination," which is namely being effected through the elimination — in progress — of all the phantom companies produced by the economic crisis, which are benefiting from unjustifiable credit terms without their being listed in the trade register and without their possessing bank accounts.

Are the representatives of the private sector being criticized for lacking "punch"? They reply that "a scalded cat is afraid of cold water." Be that as it may, "the economy is already largely nationalized," the minister of finance noted. "The state holds a majority of shares in 70 percent of the companies existing on Madagascar. It is essential that these companies be managed efficiently."

The government is all the more hesitant about turning the reins over to the private sector since it knows beforehand who would profit from it. The Merinas of the high plateaus, of course, sure of themselves and domineering, who would thus have an opportunity to avenge themselves on a regime that is too "Cotier" for their taste, one whose creation they nevertheless favored. The Indo-Pakistani community, which is composed of about 17,000 members -- only 1,000 of them have taken out Malagasy citizenship -- would not be the last to profit from this "liberalization." Pioneers of the textile industry, very much in evidence in the food-growing industry and in the import-export trade, the Karanas exercise a discreet, but considerable influence in the economic life of the big island. In Morondava 90 percent of the houses belong to them; in Mahajanga (formerly Majunga) they probably own nearly half of the real estate.

"My primary objective is the transfer of income to the rural areas, where 84 percent of the population lives," Mr Rakotomavo insisted. Hence his policy of raising the price of paddy paid to the farmer: up 15 percent in 1984. Hence too, the reintroduction of "private operators" in the marketing networks for this staple. Thanks to an extension of cultivated land area, the minister of finance thus hopes to by 1987 totally eliminate rice exports, which have already dropped from 356,000 tons in 1982 to 114,000 tons last year. But in 1985 the rural development and agrarian reform budget amounted to barely a tenth of the national defense budget!

Will he win his gamble? "Farming is performed by peasants who must have the feeling that they are working for themselves," Mr Rakotomavo explained. "You can't produce if you're not a landowner." So, for 2 years now several thousand hectares have been reassigned to private individuals in the rice-growing Lake Alaotra area. Elsewhere this transfer has been effected to the benefit of big private companies or implemented by the signing of tenant farming contracts.

But, for a peasant to decide to plant his fields, aside from profitable prices, he has to have roads suitable for trading his products for others and an irrigation network in good condition, which the World Bank and the European Economic Community in particular are occupying themselves with. Our peasant also wants to be sure that his harvest will not be misappropriated by others, that his profit will not be nibbled away at by some Chinese middleman. From this point of view "liberalization" does not necessarily simplify people's lives.

The problem of the foreign debt -- \$1.7 billion -- remains unsolved. If there had not been an agreement to again stagger repayments last October, the burden of the debt would have absorbed 80 percent of all export receipts; it still represents 60 percent of them. "It's discouraging: We restructure, readjust

and reorient our economy simply to repay our loans without its being possible for the funds thus released to serve development," a high official noted.

No more short-week negotiations: "We must achieve a global and reasonable re-adjustment of our loans," the minister of finance felt. In his opinion, the idea of a "debtors' club" raised by Mr Ratsiraka, which would be a counterpart to the Club of Paris, "is ripening."

Black Gold Fever

Kerosene tomorrow? Since the chief of state announced the opening of a drilling campaign, many people have been a bit too quick to think that prosperity is within range of a derrick. Some interpret as a good omen the fact that the IMF is playing for all it is worth the card of Madagascar, a country it has since June 1980 already lent \$148 million. Begun during Mr Tsiranana's regime, oil exploration was interrupted in 1974, at which time indications of the presence of black gold were revealed. Today exploration has been resumed on the west coast of the big island around Majajanga and Morondava. Four "blocks" have already been distributed there to three American companies: Amoco, Western Petroleum and Mobil, and to one Italian company, AGIP [Italian Petroleum Enterprise], in the original form of a special partnership in which the state holds a majority of 51 percent of the stock.

Amoco started its first drilling operation at the end of 1984; the others will follow. "Results are expected without delay," Gen Hubert Andrianasolo, the head of the National Military Office for Strategic Industries (OMNIS), indicated. Negotiations are already in progress with other companies for the distribution of "blocks" elsewhere on the big island. As for the minister of finance, he wisely refuses to take into account in his calculations what is still only speculation.

No one, not even those who stand most to gain from the "new economic policy," is insisting on the fact that a veritable reversal of trends is involved. Mr Rakotomavo speaks cautiously of "a recovery period with more pragmatism." For Mr Manandafy, "certain gains remain, namely our departure from the franc zone, economic independence with respect to France, the concern for social justice and the effort for decentralization. Our social plan has not been laid open to question." For Mr Razakaboana, who represents the right wing of the AREMA, the president's party, "we must see to it that the process now in progress is irreversible and we must be wary of the strategic withdrawals of those who have not resigned themselves to burying the dream of 1975." A dream that has today vanished.

[23 Mar 85 p 8]

[Text] 3. A Country "That Will Not Kneel"

Following a succession of serious errors in the economic domain, Mr Ratsiraka's regime is trying to straighten things out. But these belated efforts have run up against general scepticism and the problem posed by a burdensome foreign debt remains unyielding (LE MONDE, 21 and 22 March).

Tananarive---He wants to create "a mystique of French apprenticeship." Nothing less! Justin Rakotoniana, who was minister of national education in 1975 at the time of the "great upheaval" and who today heads the CSR Cultural and Social Commission, does not beat about the bush. You do what you have to when you admit the failure of a system! Moreover, did not Mr Didier Ratsiraka, the chief of state, set the tone during the ceremony of presenting his wishes for the New Year? "A pity," he regretted at the time, "no one reads La Fontaine on Madagascar any more...."

According to the "Red Book," Malagasization was nothing but the "harmonization of educational content and methods with the imperatives of the revolution." Now according to Mr Rakotoniana, "a poor interpretation was made, one that resulted in an exclusive utilization of Malagasy and a rejection of French." At the "secondary level" the latter was taught only as a foreign language, while at the "higher education level" students did not have sufficient command of it to properly assimilate the subject matter, particularly the scientific and technical subjects, included in the program. Probably for ideological reasons, moreover, French was learned without reference to authors, but on the basis of topics, for example, work or the cooperatives.

"French Whether We Like It or Not..."

Malagasy officials today admit: "A language of international communication, whether we like it or not, French is part of our cultural heritage." They will also have to work twice as fast to make up for the errors of the past. A ministerial memorandum recently increased the weekly instruction of French at the "secondary level" by 1 hour for the first cycle of studies and by 2 hours for the second cycle. This year at the faculty of letters they anticipate a "leveling" in French: 125 hours of courses spread out over 14 weeks.

This promotion of French goes beyond the school and university system per se. Does it not involve development of the library network throughout the country, specifically by providing them with books in French, increasing the volume of programs telecast in French and above all creating a second radio network in French -- it was eliminated in 1973 -- that will broadcast 9 hours a day during the best time "slots"?

This "rebalancing" was made possible by the fact that Paris and Tananarive ended up by getting together again, that their relations today seem to be sound and free from mutual suspicions. Mr Ratsiraka and his people are therefore in a better position to defend themselves against the criticism leveled at them by those who had staked everything on Malagasization, to wit that of being the accomplices of a "cultural reconquest by France." For Mr Rakotoniana, "the rehabilitation of the study of French is a question of interest, not sentiment." As for the chief of state, he continues to be as mistrustful as before of the idea of French-language use and refuses to join the large family of those who are calling for it.

France has paid a high price for its "false exit" in 1960 when it gave the big island independence without really letting go of the reins of power. First,

the 1972 revolution was conducted against it through him who might in the eyes of many appear to be its proxy: Philibert Tsiranana. Today, Paris has "re-evaluated" the role it should play here and has under the present circumstances refrained from any "gloating." Cooperation has been resumed better than ever on a sound basis. France, which locally maintains 607 technical assistants, granted Madagascar 613 million francs in aid last year. It is still the chief supplier of aid, but is no longer Madagascar's chief customer.

It is probably more out of a spirit of contradiction than out of conviction that, when it had things out with France, Madagascar turned to the Soviet Union. Once he was installed in power, did Mr Ratsiraka sign a secret military pact in due form with Moscow, or at least a sort of "life insurance policy" which would include a personal protection clause through the intermediary of the North Koreans, as some have whispered about? It is not forbidden to think, in connection with this, that the chief of state has some "string attached to himself" that hampers his freedom to maneuver.

Moscow's Actions on the Decline

Must we conclude that the big island has fallen into Moscow's orbit, that Kremlin leaders are running the show? As far as we know, the Soviet presence is not as massive as some claim: about a hundred experts, according to agreeing Western sources. Madagascar has a fleet of 12 Mig-21's -- not yet paid for -- operation of which is shared by native and Soviet personnel and which are based at the civil airport at Ivato near Tananarive. In addition to this, there is a flight composed of four Mig-17's on loan from Pyongyang, piloted by North Koreans in Malagasy uniform.

No Soviet warship has ever put in at the port of Antsiranana (formerly Diego-Suarez) for a "courtesy visit." On the other hand, from time to time Soviet freighters unload light armored equipment: guns, antiaircraft guns, for example, at Toamasina (formerly Tamatave). Between 100 and 150 Malagasy soldiers are in short or long-term training in the Soviet Union, about as many as in France. It seems that there is no longer anyone in training in North Korea, Cuba and Romania.

No one denies that Kremlin leaders have designs on the big island. But for the moment their approach maneuvers do not seem to have "paid off" very well, which does not discourage them from offering their services, from putting in an active appearance. They thus succeeded in obtaining the opening of a consulate in Toamasina last August. On the other hand, in the face of the concern expressed by some Western powers, several months ago the Malagasy authorities decided to "dismantle" the three land-based centers for long-range marine detection which the Soviets were building.

Even though certain public attitudes work against him, as if he were the prisoner of a willingly provocative person, even though certain positions he has adopted on Afghanistan, for example, lead us to think that he has chosen sides, Mr Ratsiraka has after all succeeded in keeping his Soviet friends at a distance, in without any major hangups pursuing an all-out policy of nonalignment. The

The universal formula that concludes many of his official speeches: "Long live Madagascar, which will not kneel," is not a formula devoid of meaning.

For the time being, Moscow's actions here are more on the decline, as are — a significant fact — those of the AKFM, which locally serves as Moscow's spokesman. Did not the latter recently complain about the "pro-American" tone of Malagasy radio broadcasts? True, the media make less effective use of TASS [Soviet news agency] dispatches than before! In the eyes of a large portion of the population cyclone Kamisy, which last April ravaged the northern part of the big island, served to expose the Kremlin's attitude.

France was the first to send two units of its fleet to the aid of victims in Antsiranana. They were followed by an American Navy repair ship. As for Soviet ships, they are still waiting for them.

The appearance of the repair ship "Hector" in the anchorage at Antsiranana was, moreover, a new sign of the rekindling of relations between Tananarive and Washington. The centennial of relations between the two countries had already — 2 years ago — been noisily celebrated here. At that time Mr Chester Crocker, the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs declared: "Those who succeed us will discover that 1983 was one of the finest years in the long history of Malagasy-American friendship." It was the end of a long falling-out marked by the absence of an American ambassador on the big island from May 1975 to September 1980.

There are no longer any serious misunderstandings between the two countries, each accepting the other as it is. Last November Mr Ratsiraka sent a congratulatory message to Mr Ronald Reagan on the occasion of his reelection, but — oddly enough — its contents were not divulged! While the Malagasy chief of state has never made an official visit to Washington — his last stay on the other side of the Atlantic goes back to 1973 when he was minister of foreign affairs — he has just, for the first time since 1975, sent a parliamentary mission there headed by Mr Lucien Andrianarainjaka, the president of the National Assembly.

Cooperation with Washington at Its Height

Cooperation is at its height: Since May 1981, Washington has granted the big island \$50 million in food aid. Three American companies are exploring the Malagasy subsoil in an attempt to get black gold to gush from it. Under the present circumstances Mr Ratsiraka wants to keep from offending the United States, which holds the keys to a possible Ali Baba's cave! The chairmanship of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) is also not for the time being trying to offend it since it would, in this very visible position, be obliged to show itself to be unyielding, and that would not please everybody.

This realistic decision also marks the new orientation Mr Ratsiraka intends to imbue his regional policy with. The recent admission of France and the Comoros to the Indian Ocean Commission, which already included Madagascar, Mauritius and the Seychelles, is proof of this. The Malagasy chief of state today takes into account certain "realities" and thus recognizes France as a "border power."

Is it not in fact in the interest of the big island to reactivate trade with the neighboring department of Reunion, as has begun to be the case? Last year it sold the latter 6,000 tons of corn. A start.

Mr Ratsiraka has set aside his allergies to renew the dialogue with the Comoros, whose government means nothing of any importance to him: Since 1977, relations between the two countries had been practically nonexistent. Now, at the end of January, the Malagasy chief of state sent Mr Nirina Anriamanerasoa, one of his closest collaborators and the bearer of a message which its addressee judged to be "particularly warm," to Mr Ahmed Abdallah, his counterpart. It is important to note that this visit to Moroni came only a month after that of Mr "Pik" Botha, the South African minister of foreign affairs.

A change of tactics in Tananarive. It is no longer a matter of systematically denouncing those who shake hands with the South African "devil." Mr Ratsiraka would, on the contrary, like to try to stem the advance of the racist Pretoria regime with the feeble means at his command in order not to incur the criticism of having remained aloof. There is the precedent of Mozambique, criticized for having signed the Nkomati pact by the same ones who did not lift a finger to release it from the grip of its powerful neighbor. Did the Malagasy chief of state get wind of the fact that South Africa is planning to place a Boeing 747 at the disposal of Air Comores to open a new route to Europe? He immediately proposed that its Jumbo Jet make a stop at Moroni on its Paris flight. It is only fair. And now Mr Abdallah is facing a political choice.

Mr Ratsiraka, who at one time saw white mercenaries in the pay of Pretoria's leaders everywhere, ready to destabilize his regime, has ended up admitting that the latter for the time being have other things to worry about. At any rate, it will be some time before this former naval officer forgets the bitter humiliation the South African authorities subjected him to when he was on a cruise aboard "La Jeanne": They had forbidden this officer cadet, who in their eyes was not quite like the others, to go ashore when the ship put in at Durban. There are memories that leave their mark.

11,466

CSO: 3419/361

MALAWI

SADCC ENERGY PROJECTS SEEKING FUNDING

Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 27 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Eston Thyoka-Phiri]

[Text]

THE SOUTHERN Africa Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) is seeking nearly K100 million to enable Cahora Bassa electricity to be transmitted across Malawi to Mozambique's north-eastern province, it was learnt this week.

The project would also enable Malawi to tap power from the proposed 220 kilovolt transmission lines.

The giant Cahora Bassa hydro-electric project near Tete is Mozambique's biggest power producer. Transmission lines through Malawi territory would be the most economical way of providing electricity to the north-eastern areas of Mozambique, an SADCC official told the 'Daily Times'.

The project, which would get underway as soon as funds had been

found for it, was one of eight presented by Malawi at last month's SADCC ministerial meeting in Swaziland on regional energy requirements, he said.

Malawi's other projects, which were also approved and for which SADCC will seek finance, are:

- A five-year forestry programme, costing nearly K10 million, to alleviate fuel problems in the City of Blantyre.

About 10,000 hectares of fuelwood will be planted in the Ndirande forest area, on the Chikwawa escarpment, on Chingale Hills, in Mpemba, Mwanza, Mchini, Namisu and on the slopes of Mulanje Mountain.

- A hydrocarbon exploration project along the Malawi Rift Valley (Lake Malawi through to the Lower Shire Valley). This is a K2.5 million project.

- Intensified coal exploration and evaluation work, including pilot exca-

vation works near Livingstonia in the Northern Region. This will cost nearly K4 million.

- The establishment of a coal analysis laboratory, costing K500,000, for the Department of Geological Surveys at Zomba.

- The establishment of a small hydroelectric power station at Karonga to replace the diesel generators serving the townships.

Under this project, costing nearly K3 million, two hydroelectric stations will be constructed at the confluence of the North Rukuru River and the Sere River in Karonga district.

- The exportation of electricity from Malawi to Mozambique under a K2.5 million project to connect Mangochi to Mandimba on the eastern side of Mozambique, Mwanza to Zobue on the western side of Mozambique and Ntcheu-Dedza to Villa Ulongwe in Mozambique.

CSO: 3400/956

MALAWI

NEW MEASURES ENACTED TO REDUCE DEFICIT

Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in English 23-29 Mar 85 pp 1-2

[Text]

THE FOLLOWING measures were announced by the Minister of Finance in Parliament yesterday to help cover an estimated K44.9 million deficit on the 1985-86 Budget:

- Land rent is to be increased from K7.41 per hectare to K10 per hectare per annum. The Commissioner for Lands has been instructed to enforce the collection of this fee, and will effect land seizure if necessary upon default of payment.

- 10 per cent of receipts from rent of properties, royalties, fees and commissions, and supplies to institutions under tender or any other arrangement with a value of K200 or more at any one single time, will be withheld as Government tax.

TOBACCO

- 5 per cent of receipts on

the sale of tobacco at Auction Floors, and farm products sold with a value of at least K200, will be withheld as Government tax.

- New legislation is to be introduced on taxation of insurance companies to provide new taxation formula for life assurance business.

Mr. Bwanali also announced that Stamp Duty payable in respect of life insurance policies will be adjusted downwards by 50 per cent to assist people in acquiring life assurance cover.

- A 10 per cent levy is imposed on the f.o.b. value of exports of tea and tobacco to be paid by an exporter at the time his goods are being exported. The levy is wholly deductible as an expense for income tax purposes.

INCOME TAX

- Income tax collection is advanced to a financial

year corresponding to the financial year of each taxpayer. Each taxpayer will be expected to pay his income tax no later than 30 days after the end of his or her financial year. Assessment of tax will now be made after an estimated tax has been paid.

- Adjustments are made in the scale and rates of Graduated Income Tax and Pay-As-You-Earn Income Tax. The adjustments are intended to reduce the regressive nature of Graduated Income Tax, and to streamline the rates of taxation under PAYE.

The effect of the adjustments will be reductions in the amount of taxes payable by most taxpayers affected by the adjustment.

However, in the event of a worsening nonfunded deficit, these reductions may be reversed and adjusted upwards to cover such a deficit.

CSO: 3400/956

MALAWI

BANDA APPLAUDS ARMY ON COMMUNITY COOPERATION

Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 25 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

THE CO-OPERATION existing between the Malawi Army, Police Force and civil servants on one hand and the general public on the other since independence, has ensured continued peace and calm, law and order and has ushered in a measure of prosperity in the country, His Excellency the Life President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, has said.

The Ngwazi was speaking on Saturday at Zomba Catholic Secondary School ground after he commissioned 17 Army officer cadets who had completed their 10-month training at the Kamuzu Military College in Salima. Six of these were students from the Kenya Army.

The Life President stated that whatever might be the case in other African countries, here the Army was not a separate entity from the community; and so too the Police Force and the civil service.

He recalled that during the colonial era the Army,

Police and civil servants were keeping the people down by ill-treating them. As a result there was no co-operation between the two groups and consequently no peace and calm and law and order in the country, the Ngwazi said.

It was understandable that such a situation existed in the colonial era because the administrators, right from the Governor to provincial commissioners and district commissioners, were white people who behaved ruthlessly towards Africans, the Malawi leader pointed out.

In an attempt to please the white district commissioners, chiefs also treated people ruthlessly, the Ngwazi said.

"I had to put an end to that," the Life President declared, adding: "I told them that previously you were under the whites and those days were over.

"Now that I am in charge I want people to see the difference between a foreign government and their own," the Ngwazi stated.

The Life President pointed out that he had told the Army, Police and civil servants in plain language that here they could not be a separate com-

munity from the people.

The armed forces and civil servants had all listened to him and as a result there was no enmity between them and the general public, the Ngwazi observed.

The Malawi leader noted that the existing co-operation has made it easier to enforce peace and calm and law and order in the country.

People throughout the country minded their business, that of farming, because they lived free from any fear of the Army or Police, the Ngwazi said.

He reiterated that as a result of the peace and calm people have responded to his appeals for hard work in the fields,

thereby making Malawi one of the few countries in Africa that feeds itself.

Malawi had earned itself a reputation as a creditworthy country which knows what to do with its economy and politics, the Ngwazi said, thanking his people for the unity which has led to the sustenance of the agro-based economy.

Earlier the Commander of the Malawi Army, General M. M. Khanga, pledged the Army's total loyalty and support for the Ngwazi, the Party and the Government.

General Khanga said that the Army was united with the people to deal seriously and ruthlessly with anyone who tried to subvert the nation.

CSO: 3400/957

MALAWI

LOWER ECONOMIC GROWTH EXPECTED FOR 1985

Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in English 23-29 Mar 85 pp 1-]

[Text]

Presenting the 1985-86 Budget, Mr. Bwanali said the prolonged rains had affected the tobacco crop this year. As a consequence, the economy was expected to show a growth of 3.9 per cent — a positive growth but well below 1984's "remarkable" 7.6 per cent rise in Gross Domestic Product.

The agricultural sector, which includes most of the export sector, was expected to register reduced growth of 1.6 per cent.

This would create a strain on the balance of payments. Since these were the results of developments in one crop, it was "imperative that efforts to diversify the economy were taken strenuously" so that Malawi was not overly dependent on a handful of crops or commodities for export proceeds, he said.

Last year's substantial improvement, despite major problems, particularly in international transport, had been propelled by the agricultural sector in general and the small holder sub-sector in particular, Mr. Bwanali said.

RECORD

Agricultural output rose by 6.3 per cent compared to 4.2 per cent in 1983, and the smallholder sector in-

creased its output by a remarkable 7.8 per cent.

Admarc had purchased a record quantity of 373,000 metric tonnes of agricultural produce in 1984, at a cost of K73 million.

"What this meant is that people in the villages earned up to K73 million from their crops as opposed to K45 million earned in 1983. This is a substantial amount and it vividly shows the result of His Excellency the Life President's appeal to his people that they should work hard in the fields," the Minister said.

Despite transport difficulties, total exports in 1984 increased by a substantial 59 per cent, while imports increased only marginally by six per cent.

The position on the balance of payments was also remarkable in 1984. In 1983 Malawi had an overall deficit on its balance of payments of K54 million. Last year, the country showed a net increase in its reserves of K88 million.

Statutory corporations, too, registered excellent growth last year. "The combined net profits of the nine largest statutory corporations in 1984 has been recorded at K11.049 million, a very remarkable improvement over the almost

continuous series of losses in the past," the Minister said.

Mr. Bwanali said the 1985-86 budget would continue with the objective of reducing the internal and external imbalances in the economy and the reduction of budget deficits to sustainable levels.

Under a structural readjustment programme being negotiated with the World Bank, emphasis would be placed on providing the appropriate and necessary incentives for the strengthening of the export sector and at the same time efforts to mobilise domestic resources for optimum growth would be intensified.

The 1985-86 Budget projects estimated expenditure of K402.9 million on the Revenue Account and K156.4 million on the Development Account. A total deficit of K104.4 million would be financed partly by programme funding and other external borrowing. A total of K44.9 million would be met by local borrowing and domestic fiscal measures.

MALAWI

BWANALI OUTLINES ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES FOR 1985

Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 26 Mar 85 p 10

[Text]

GROSS estimated expenditure on Revenue Account for 1985/86 is K452.1 million, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Edward Bwanali announced in Parliament while presenting the budget statement last Friday.

The Minister compared that the figure represented an increase of 9.4 per cent from the 1984/85 revised estimate of K413 million.

With appropriations-in-aid of K49 million the next expenditure on Revenue account is budgeted at K402.9 million — an increase of 8.2 per cent, he stated.

Gross statutory expenditures have been budgeted at K181.5 million on increase of 9.5 per cent from the revised 1984/85 estimates of K155.5 million, the Minister said.

He elaborated that this

reflected the expected increase in debt service obligation by 12.5 per cent from the 1984/85 revised estimate of K157.2 million to a high budgeted estimate for 1985/86, of K175.5 million.

A contributing factor to this, he explained, is the fact that our period of debt rescheduling came to an end in June, 1984 for bilateral loans and in August, 1984 for commercial loans, returning the original schedules with added interest rates.

The Finance Minister also said that gross voted expenditure had increased by 9.4 per cent to K270.7 million.

"This includes an allocation for other goods and services of K175.6 million, representing a 5.7 per cent increase from the revised estimates for 1984/85 of K186.1m, net revenues are estimated at K332.1

million.

Mr. Bwanali told the House that receipts on the revenue account for 1985/86 amounted to K332.3 million, an increase of 7.2 per cent from the revised estimate of K309.9 million. The estimated expenditure of K402.5 million and the net revenue of K332.3 million, yielded a deficit on this account of K70.7 million.

He said the deficits on the development account and the revenue account yield a combined deficit of K104.4 million.

Part of this deficit will be financed from programme and commodity aid, leaving an unfunded financing gap of K44.9 million, he said.

This unfunded gap, the Minister went on, called for the introduction by the government of new measures to close it. Mana

CSO: 3400/957

MOZAMBIQUE

OBLIGATORY MILITARY SERVICE REGISTRATION SUCCESSFUL

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 11 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] In all the districts of the city of Beira, today marks the conclusion of the process of issuing registration cards to the young men recruited for Obligatory Military Service [SMO] during the recently-ended campaign. A preliminary assessment of the results this year indicated that the campaign was generally successful, despite various problems.

In this regard, Lt Artur Charles, chief of the Recruitment and Mobilization Center in Sofala, noted that the success was due basically to the moral and material support from the local political structures and the education and mobilization provided by the parents and teachers of the young men of eligible age.

Another factor that contributed to the massive flow of young men to the registration post was the introduction of new organizational methods and the detailed preparations for the process, from top to bottom.

According to our informant, it is also important to note the efficiency of the operation. The cards were issued immediately after registration, unlike the procedure last year.

The young men signed up and received their respective cards within 2 days, which prevented confusion and the loss of their registration slips.

The lieutenant praised the work of the dynamization groups, particularly their respective secretaries, for the way they conducted the operation: "There was no irregularity in the districts. They all knew how to interpret the registration regulations correctly, and the brigades were equally helpful."

Referring to one of the problems that tended to impede the campaign, in addition to the difficulty in obtaining photographic material [for the photograph required of the recruits], our informant noted that some opportunists shamed the uniform of the Defense and Security forces, seeking to foment panic and upheaval among the young people of Beira.

"As soon as we learned of the irregularities perpetrated by some militiamen, we acted to correct these errors and we made the brigades understand that recruitment into the SMO is not by force and is not an act of punishment, as they had thought," he explained.

Lieutenant Charles made it very clear, however, that the patrolling of the city would continue, to bring the citizens of eligible age who are violating the Obligatory Military Service Law into the recruitment center.

Young people of military service age who have not registered or who go from one province to another without authorization from the respective centers are in violation of that act. Also punishable under the law are young men who have signed up and who do not report for duty to defend the country, or those who have already been assigned to a military unit and who desert and go home.

Final Accounting

At this time, the enlistment slips are being collected, after which there will be a meeting to take an overall accounting of the most recent registration campaign for obligatory military service in Sofala Province.

The meeting is scheduled for this week, barring the unforeseen, and will be attended by the leaders of the brigades and representatives of the organs involved in the process.

At the same meeting, the participants will study the action to be taken during the following phase (induction), which will also call for detailed preparations and should involve various party and state organisms. The entire process will culminate in a farewell party for the young men who have been called up to defend the Mozambican nation.

Good Results in Zambezia

Registration for obligatory military service in Zambezia Province proceeded satisfactorily, since the young people responded very positively, we learned from Antonio Matias, political commissioner of the Military Recruitment Center for that region, when he spoke with our reporter a few days ago.

The success of the recently-ended campaign is owing to the intensive work of mobilization and public education on the importance and objectives of SMO.

"Many young men reported to our registration posts, which demonstrates their high level of political awareness, because it is only with the massive engagement of the young people that we can fill the ranks of the FAM/FPLM [Mozambican Armed Forces] and insure the physical elimination of the armed bandits," our informant said.

According to Antonio Matias, throughout the process, the party and state organs participated actively in the mobilization brigades and in the search for solutions to possible problems that could jeopardize the program. The registration officers were organized and received training beforehand, and this also contributed to the success achieved in Zambezia.

However, the shortage of transportation and communications means was noted as a problem hampering the delivery of leaflets and registration slips, as well as the collection of statistical data.

Referring specifically to operations in the city of Qualimane, our informant said that the young men were not reporting on the first few days. He noted, however, that this phenomenon is observed almost every year, because those who become eligible "always tend to leave everything until the last moment, not knowing what repercussions this could cause."

Registration Not Complete

Contacted by this newspaper, Francisco Combe, secretary of the Dynamization Group for Chaimite District, reported that the registration campaign in that neighborhood had been the most successful in recent years, both in terms of organization and participation. "During the process, we all took part in the mobilization, and this enabled our young people to understand that the restoration of peace in our country depended on their participation in its defense."

The official noted that the flow of young men to the registration post began to increase in the final days, to the point that "many young people could not be registered."

In view of this situation, Combe felt that "the registration period should be extended for at least 2 more weeks." In support of his proposal, he noted that many young men had been on vacation or had been attending self-defense training courses during the campaign and had been unable to register.

The district secretary also noted that most of the young men who had not registered were procrastinators who like to leave everything to the last minute. "Many young men have shown up here begging to be registered, but we could not do anything without authorization from the higher organs," he said.

6362

CSO: 3442/225

MOZAMBIQUE

BULGARIA DONATES SOAP, CLOTHING TO COOPERATIVES

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 15 Mar 85 p 8

[Text] Yesterday morning, the ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to our country, Andrey Takanhatzov, turned over large amounts of clothing, shoes and soap to be sent to the population in the provinces of southern Mozambique, at a people's meeting held in the Georgi Dimitov District of Maputo.

In attendance at the ceremony to present the items was the chairman of the executive council of the city of Maputo, Alberto Massavanhane, as well as the OMM [Organization of Mozambique Women] secretary in the city, Cristina Tembe, heads of the No 5 Urban District political agencies, representatives from the home trade office and officials from the Bulgarian Embassy in our country.

On this occasion, the ambassador underscored the cooperative relations that exist between our two countries, in this connection recalling the visit that President Samora Machel had paid to Bulgaria in 1980, and claiming that it "solidified the relations between our two peoples and states."

Moreover, Andrey Takanhatzov congratulated the leadership of the FRELIMO Party for having given the name of the first president of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Georgi Dimitov, to a district in the capital; noting that the latter had been an untiring fighter for the ideals of the socialist revolution.

Andrey Takanhatzov told the population of Georgi Dimitrov District: "For this reason, you must also participate actively in the battle against famine, by increasing production."

The chairman of the executive council of the city of Maputo, in turn, expressed gratitude for the gesture of solidarity from the Bulgarian people to the Mozambican people, declaring that this solidarity dates back to the time of our armed struggle for national liberation.

Alberto Massavanhane also reminded the population of the cooperation that exists between the cities of Maputo and Sofia, in the context of a friendship agreement signed between the two capitals in 1982.

The agreement between the two cities calls for, among other things, the development of a fruitful cooperation and an exchange of views, for the purpose of improving the living conditions of the residents of the two capitals, during the period 1982-85, as well as mutual assistance in carrying out the major development tasks.

It should be noted that the items now delivered and on display at the consumer cooperative in Georgi Dimitrov District are part of a donation recently given to our country by the government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, worth \$3.5 million (nearly 140,000 contos) and are intended for the population of the city and the provinces of Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane.

The donation consists of 258 tons of laundry and toilet soap, 291,000 meters of fabrics, 36,000 pairs of shoes, 40,000 items of clothing for men, women and children, and other items, to be distributed on a priority basis among the consumer cooperatives in the city and the provinces of the country's southern section.

2909

CSO: 3442/230

MOZAMBIQUE

MARKETING OF GREEN ZONE PRODUCE SAID SUCCESSFUL IN BEIRA

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 14 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] Last year, for the first time, Beira marketed the surplus produce, mainly from the family sector, grown in the green zones. Although some problems were acknowledged, the experiment was considered a success, according to the report presented day before yesterday to the ninth session of the Beira Assembly, now in progress.

The lack of experience in this area and the national transportation shortage were the main obstacles to this activity. As a result, large quantities of cassava and sweet potatoes spoiled in the marketing establishments or while still in the hands of the family farmers.

Moreover, no solution was found to serve as an efficient basis for the marketing of these tubers. Cassava, in particular, keeps better when dried than does fresh cassava. However, since no methods were established for trade with the producer, fresh cassava was sold in large quantities.

Discussing the matter in the assembly, Raimundo Cossa, director of green zones, pointed out that adjustments were made as the process went along, and a Marketing Commission was created, an agency which involves several entities.

The marketing was conducted by the Domestic Trade Ministry through AGRICOM [Agricultural Products Marketing Company] and the green zones, which participated directly and through the [cooperative] Hortifruticola. Sales included 3 tons of rice, 150 tons of sweet potatoes, 13 tons of cashew nuts, 23 kilograms of dried cassava and 19 of vegetables.

According to Raimundo Cossa, most of the cassava should be sold after drying, because there is currently no way to preserve it, although fresh cassava can also be sold in small quantities.

When the problem of the loss of cassava and sweet potatoes was raised at the assembly meeting, Titos Afonso, director of domestic trade in the city, noted that there was another problem at the trading posts.

AGRICOM had the responsibility of transporting the products for marketing, and the cassava and other merchandise should be delivered to the city by now.

"The spoilage probably occurred because of problems with transportation. The trading posts are waiting for AGRICOM to ship the produce to Beira," Tito Afonso said.

According to Afonso, this has been impossible; although it had been agreed that AGRICOM would be paid a certain rate for shipping it, it did not have the means at its disposal for this shipment.

Prospects

In this regard, Raimundo Cossa said that "there are prospects for a more permanent marketing arrangement, with the installation of some stores in the city for the purpose. Some contacts have already been made and we are still waiting for approval."

According to the director of green zones, the stores would permit continuous trade, without waiting for the periods that are essentially devoted to marketing, and the family farmers could bring their produce to these establishments.

This was one of the proposals offered to prevent the problems which have impeded the operations and it could help to insure the provision of some surplus produce from the family sector that is needed in the city.

6362

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30 April 1985

MOZAMBIQUE

NAMPULA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HEAD COMMENTS ON GREEN ZONES

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 15 Mar 85 p 8

[Text] At the present time, giving an incentive to the production of green vegetables, corn and other products, with a view toward making the city self-sufficient in supplies, is the main concern of the executive council members in the city of Nampula. Interviewed by our newspaper, the chairman of that city's executive council, Germano Jose Joaquim, reported that the first step taken in that direction was to turn over under-utilized zones to private farmers who are engaged not only in green vegetable production but also in raising small and large-sized animals. This activity received a significant impetus upon the creation of the Green Zones Office in 1980.

The residents of the city of Nampula were not accustomed to engaging in agricultural or garden produce production, taking advantage of the idle land existing in that city; something which made them dependent upon supplies from populations residing outside the city.

Thus, the creation of the Green Zones Office appeared as a "waking up" to the need for them to produce the food that they required by themselves.

It should also be noted that, up until now, there have been vast areas in which everything could have been produced, from green vegetables to corn, peanuts, cassava, sweet potatoes and other crops. Unfortunately, those areas still remain unused.

Turning Over the Land to Those Who Need It

One of the first policies established initially and aimed at making use of the land was turning over former (abandoned) properties to the enterprises. From this standpoint, the enterprises had to create conditions for producing for their workers' consumption and for supplying the social institutions and the population.

However, this measure did not produce the desired effects, because the land continued to be under-utilized.

In view of this situation, the executive council, through the Green Zones Office, adopted as an option the turnover of land to private farmers and to the population.

Since the adoption of this measure, the results have been encouraging. In addition to private farms, there are now 30 production cooperatives in operation, 10 of which are considered pilots. Both the private sector and the cooperative one are ensuring supplies to social institutions (boarding schools, hospitals, hotels and restaurants), with the rest of the production remaining for sale on the local market.

Our reporter, who visited a farm of a private citizen and a cooperative located 4 and 8 kilometers from the city, respectively, was able to witness the purchase of various products by several enterprises.

Government Backing for Production

In view of the important role that the production from these sectors plays in the area of combating famine, the city government agencies have been backing those sectors in various ways, prominent among which is the supply of seed, as well as the construction of dams for irrigation and protection of the farms, in addition to the availability of motor pumps for irrigation.

Moreover, we must cite the matter of livestock raising, which has been given special attention by the executive council. We might mention as an example the private farmer, Antonio Rodrigues Oliveira, whose farm is located in the vicinity of the psychiatric hospital. He has a project (already under way) for raising livestock: beef cattle, hogs, goats and ducks. According to the director of the Green Zones Office, Pinto Luciano, contacts are already in progress between that agency and the livestock one to supply specimens of the animals that the farmers need.

Production From Green Zones Being Marketed

As a result of the efforts that are being expended, aimed particularly at increasing production, and hence reducing the problems of famine, we were told by the chairman of the executive council: "The surplus production from the city is being placed on the agricultural market. Last year, a total of 302 tons of various products were sold."

That official announced that, for this year, it was decided to expand the cultivation areas, both for the family and the cooperative sectors. For this purpose, a mobilization effort is being made among the population so that this goal may be attained.

2909

CSO: 3442/230

MOZAMBIQUE

MARKETING FIGURES FOR INHAMBANE REPORTED

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 18 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] Last year, Inhambane Province marketed over 8,500 tons of various farm products, with a total value of 1.43 million contos. This index is considered the best in the agrarian marketing area for the past 2 years.

The marketed products during 1984 correspond to 67 percent of the goal planned in the province. Prominent among the products purchased from the peasants in the agricultural marketing campaign process were corn, cotton, seasoning oil, copra, cashew nuts, cassava and green vegetables.

"During 1984, agricultural production met with satisfactory results in comparison with the previous year," notes a report submitted at recent sessions of the Inhambane government and provincial assembly, which discussed the level of fulfillment of the central state plan and the territorial program last year.

The document also observes that, nevertheless, there were problems of damage to machinery and lack of fuel, as well as scarcity of rainfall, particularly in the northern part of the province, where the lack thereof has been felt nearly all year long.

Agricultural-Livestock Production

As the document in question stressed, throughout last year 11 seed multiplication centers were created, the most significant being those in Mubalo, in Homoine district; Mapinhane, in Mabote district; Vilanculos, in Massinga district; Nhaccongo, in Inherrime district; and Malaia, in Morrumbene district. At these centers the multiplication of seed for corn, peanuts, cassava, nhemba beans and squash is carried out, in addition to the production of green vegetables and fruit.

With regard to the development of small projects, the recovery of irrigation began in the valleys of Mutamba, Mubalo, Julius Nyerere Communal Village and Mahangue, in the districts of Jangamo, Homoine, Panda and Morrumbene, respectively. For this year, it is planned to introduce different irrigation systems, such as aero-pumps and well-sweeps.

In the livestock sector, there was a 40 percent decline in the supply of cattle in Inhambane Province from the figure in 1983. According to the inventory taken last year, the province had a supply of 56,678 head of cattle, Massinga, Homoine and Panda being the districts with the largest supplies.

Industrial Production

In the industrial area, the provincial government's report notes that the Nova Mambone salt-works in Govuro district produced 1,246 tons out of the 6,500 tons of salt planned for last year. This non-fulfillment was due to damage in the motor pump during the second half of the year and the irregular fuel supply. However, 5,000 tons of salt produced in previous years are still awaiting removal.

In the lumber sector, the Funhalouro, Chitanga, Mawaela and Mazucane sawmills were recovered; the latter having been destroyed by the armed bandits in the middle of last year.

As a corollary to this work, MADEMO [Mozambique Lumber Enterprise] managed to exceed the production goals for crossbeams and sawed lumber by over 4 percent and 182 percent, respectively. Last year, lumber production in general in Inhambane Province was 268 percent higher than in 1983.

However, the production of logs was 45 percent of the set goal. There were also rather low indexes for the production of construction materials. A total of 9,890 cubic meters of stone were produced, corresponding to 19 percent of the plan. On the other hand, 51,198 bricks were produced, compared with 120,000 units in the plan, and in prefabricated items, 74 percent of the planned goal was produced.

In the construction area, works projects included in the central state plan were executed, amounting to 64,448 contos, or 87 percent of what had been planned.

Prominent in the transportation and communications sector was the movement recorded in port activity, wherein the figure on cargo handled was exceeded by over 27,000 tons.

In the supply area, last year it was possible to reopen 114 stores, out of a total of 267 establishments closed up until 1983.

2909

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MOZAMBIQUE

COTTON CULTIVATION DECLINE IN MUTARARA DISTRICT EXPLAINED

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 13 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] In far-off times, Mutarara district was the great area which gained a reputation for cotton production. Most of the peasants from this area of Tete, working either privately or for state enterprises, were always engaged in growing the "white gold."

It is located in the western part of Tete Province, bounded by the provinces of Sofala, Manica and Zambezia, and also forming a border with Malawi.

Since colonial times, the major producers were settled in this region, and the cotton crop became most familiar to the population. In view of the situation existing then, the farmers were forced to accept the importance attached to cotton by the foreign and Portuguese capitalists.

During that period, Inhangoma, Doa, Charre, Vila Nova da Fronteria and Nsucami-ala were established as the areas with a cotton influence. Because of the good features for growing the "white gold," the Textafrica and Saza (Zambezia Cotton Company) became set up in the area.

Other inherent requirements accompanied the increased agricultural production, especially that of cotton. Two ginning factories were created and installed. Textafrica and Saza had large expanses of land on a prairie between Inhangoma, Vila Nova da Fronteira and Charre, and their production warranted the presence of factories, supplying them.

In 1979, the Saza company was subjected to intervention and its productive sector came under the control of the Tete cotton enterprise, which was also operating in Manje, in the district of Chiuta.

Meanwhile, most of the farmers were located in the area of Inhangoma, and in Doa and Vila Nova da Fronteira the cotton growing was mainly done by families.

With the creation of the Tete cotton enterprise, goals were established: to intensify cotton production, to give an incentive for growing "white gold" to the peasants and to provide suitable material and technical backing to allow for bigger and better production.

But several problems, caused particularly by the drought and the rainfall, jeopardized the existence of some cotton growers, because instead of profits the peasants were reaping damage.

Then a study was made of the possibility of transferring the production units to other sections of Tete, and Chiuta appeared to be the district offering the best conditions.

At that time, Mutarara was considered to have the major "flaw of suffering the effects of the disasters: when it was not the rain, it was the drought." The Chiuta agricultural fronts were opened up.

Only the infrastructure and the two ginning factories remained in Mutarara. Even the number of family producers declined. And the growing areas were neglected and subjected to the flooding from the Dzue-Dzue, a branch of the Zambeze River, which crosses that area. The large prairies, previously white during the harvest season, showed only an appearance of abandonment.

During the current campaign (consider the irony of the figures), it was planned to cultivate 50 hectares for the private sector and 15 for the cooperative sector; of course, in addition to the small family farms.

We should not forget that cotton is a strategic export product; and the country has a difficult economic situation.

And yet we continue to make ludicrous plans.

But the district agricultural agencies see the danger that this could mean for the economy (not so much that of the country, but that of the town and district itself); and they have begun campaigns to prompt the peasants to open up farms. This year, the priority will be food production and drought-resistant crops.

Little is expected for this agricultural campaign, but something has already been accomplished and perhaps Mutarara will, in the near future, again come to be the land of "white gold."

2909

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MOZAMBIQUE

GROWTH OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN TETE

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 11 Mar 85 p 9

[Text] The cooperative movement in the agricultural area has undergone definite growth in Tete during the past few years. The culmination was attained between 1979 and 1980, particularly in the districts of Angonia, Maravia, Mutarara, Moatize and Macanga, and declined later. Starting in 1981, an intense effort was started by members and militants of the party to make the population realize the need for creating communal villages and, with them, agricultural cooperatives. Some of the mobilizers now admit that they were mistaken in making promises about an imaginary world that never came into existence. Because of those promises, several villages reached an embryonic phase, but soon disappeared, as did the respective agricultural cooperatives.

In other words, the peasants had been given the erroneous idea that the government had to take care of the cooperatives. So they came to view the cooperatives more as state property than their own, per se.

The mistake was discovered. Starting in 1982, the party and state agencies began an offensive to sensitize the population and correct the wrong. Once again, the family sector was apprised of the need for collectivized production, but were told that its members would have to rely on their own forces, in particular. Starting then, the genuine agricultural cooperatives were created, with emphasis on the district of Angonia, in view of its excellent weather conditions.

Changara: Enclave of Cooperative Development

Located south of the provincial capital, just 90 kilometers distant, Changara has had five consecutive years of drought in recent times. The local peasants are always striving to find the means that will enable them to fight more effectively against that inclemency of nature. They adopted new production techniques, and the use of the well-sweep irrigation system has become famous.

The technology was not imported: The peasant himself sensed the need to fight that natural obstacle (drought) so that famine would cease to torture him. The experiment using well-sweeps started in one locality and later spread to all the others.

There are currently about 500 well-sweeps scattered among various communal villages in Changara district, mainly in the low-lying areas where wells have been dug for this purpose. They are the ones helping to fertilize the soil, to make the sorghum, corn, onions, sweet potatoes, beans and green vegetables develop and reproduce.

The cooperative movement in Changara district was actually started in 1981, with particular backing from what was then the CO-1 project, part of the rural development program. This backup structure created an interest among the peasants of the family sector, by demonstrating the autonomy and efficiency of the cooperative movement, aimed at improving the living conditions of the respective members. At first, it was the Unity, Maputo and Third Congress cooperatives which received the technical support, with a socioeconomic survey conducted in each cooperative; and next it was the turn of the Wiriamu Massacre cooperative.

The Demise of Cooperatives

As of the 1983-84 agricultural campaign, Changara district had 22 cooperatives. Owing to the drought, the others did not produce and were dissolved. There remained only the Wiriamu Massacre, Eduardo Mondlane, Third Congress, May Day, 25 June, Rovuma, Unity, Cangololo, Chipembere, Fourth Congress, Chiocompende, Kanimambo FRELIMO, Francisco Manyanga, Cangudze, Doce, Domera, Carata and Biriri. These were the only ones producing despite the drought. It should be noted that, in those cooperatives, irrigation with well-sweeps was introduced in the same way, with the exception of the Wiriamu Massacre cooperative, which had motor pumps.

The population of Changara, stricken by the drought over 4 years ago, a fact which prevented the production of grain to feed them, is lending new dynamics to the cooperative movement.

At present, the Nitimangau center is an enclave for cooperative development in Changara district, and there are now 10 cooperatives and an association of agrarian cooperatives, with headquarters in the respective locality. The work is being mobilized by the former CO-1 project.

Nhartanda Valley

In the green zones of the city of Tete, primarily in Nhartanda Valley, the former CO-1 project started working to back the sector for cooperative development in February 1985. At the time, there was only one agricultural cooperative in Degue, called 7 April.

As a result of several meetings to sensitize and mobilize the population residing near the valley, new embryonic agricultural cooperatives started to be formed.

The work began with a survey of the family production and the socioeconomic potential of Nhartanda Valley. In view of the need for introducing the

irrigation system into the valley, the local peasants were informed of the importance of working in collective fashion to solve their problems jointly.

Thus, four cooperatives were founded in the center of Nhartanda Valley, as a result of the merger of 120 peasants from the Sansao Muthemba district who enlisted, forming the We Shall Conquer Famine, Moeda Massacre, Worker-Peasant Alliance and Robert Mugabe cooperatives, covering an area of 24 hectares.

In less than a year and a half, a well was dug to collect water at a depth of 70 meters, equipped with a submersible electric pump with a capacity of 60 cubic meters per hour and 1,400 meters of underground piping, which supplies the four tanks constructed there. The latter have a storage capacity for 1,000 cubic meters of water. The cooperative area benefits from a drainage system to protect the land in the valley from the cyclical rainfall.

With the weather conditions in the city of Tete, irrigation represents the only solution that will ensure a significant increase in food production from the green zones. The former CO-1 project, in coordination with the rural development program sector, has decided on the creation of irrigation infrastructures as the priority in its work, according to the report submitted at the recent meeting on agriculture in the province.

In Nhartanda Valley, the original idea was irrigation using wells equipped with small electric pumps.

The irrigation system was completed in December 1984. This system will be used to irrigate an area of 12 hectares during the first phase; and, in the second, an area of 20 hectares will be cultivated for the 1985-85 agricultural campaign.

There Is Now Water

The cooperative members are already capable of collecting water to irrigate their crops and of harrowing the production land with animal hauling. Men, but particularly women from the suburbs are managing the cooperatives. They are accountants and bursars, among others. The unemployed are also being organized there.

In this agricultural campaign, the peasants are growing watermelon, okra, Kalahari corn and ana-sorghum. The members have already started selling the okra. Success is expected at the end of the campaign.

The diversification of production by means of planting fruit trees, the raising of livestock and the development of fish breeding are other priorities in the plan of the four agricultural cooperatives of Nhartanda Valley, in the capital of Tete Province.

Also this year, the cooperative members plan to open two child day-care centers in addition to installing a mill.

Angonia

The cooperative movement is facing serious difficulties in Angonia district. During the previous campaign, there were 13 cooperatives operating. Disorganization and lack of labor are fundamental problems. The bank debts contracted by the cooperatives are something that has been occurring in that district.

Hence, the party and state agencies have already started working with the cooperative members to enable them to increase their production areas in order to pay off their debts. The introduction of cattle into the cooperatives for farming work is a noteworthy feature. The Eduardo Mondlane, Down With Exploitation, 23 June, 7 April and 24 July cooperatives already have livestock for animal hauling.

2909

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MOZAMBIQUE

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE GROWTH IN NAMPULA

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 16 Mar 85 p 8

[Text] Thanks to the efforts that their members have been making, reflected in a constant rise in production, and the backing that the city government has been giving to the sector, the production cooperatives in the city of Nampula are currently undergoing both quantitative and qualitative growth. In many instances, the cooperative members are now earning wages at the end of each month as a result of the sales of their products.

Statements made to our newspaper by the chairman of the Nampula City Executive Council, Germano Joaquim, and the director of the Office of Green Zones, Pinto Luciano, agree that the constant growth that the cooperative movement has been having in that city is a result of the understanding (on the part of the population) of the advantages of collective production.

At the present time, there are 30 collective production units registered, 10 of which are considered pilots, in view of their state of development, particularly from the standpoint of management organization and even the production process itself.

As those officials explained, most of the cooperatives have a management system in operation, which enables them to administer their production in an organized manner.

As part of the search for better courses of action to develop the production cooperatives, during January, in that city, a seminar was held, attended by representatives from all the cooperatives in the provincial capital.

According to the chairman of the Nampula Executive Council, the need for making work methods uniform was the underlying aspect of the meeting. We should mention here the decision made by the participants regarding the programming of the production areas based on the existing capacity.

The chairman of the Executive Council added: "It was at this seminar that it was decided to introduce pay. During the first phase, the cooperative members receive 600.00 meticals per month, an amount that could increase concurrently with the rise in output from each cooperative."

Food Producers Deserve More Backing

Because the cooperative (production) sector plays a role of key importance to the population's supplies, the government of the city of Nampula, through its Green Zones Office, has devoted particular attention to the sector, providing seed and fertilizer, and giving priority to the supply of fuel for the machines assigned to the cooperatives as well as allocating basic agricultural technicians for back the production.

The construction of reservoirs and dams for irrigation is another activity that is being backed by the Executive Council.

An Example of a Growing Cooperative

One example of a constantly growing cooperative is what we might call the 7 April Production Cooperative, located 8 kilometers from the provincial capital.

When it was founded in 1981, it consisted of seven persons. At present, it has a total of 58 members.

Information provided to our reporter by the head of that collective production unit illustrates the progress, not only in terms of more members, but also the physical growth of the cooperative itself.

In 1981, that group produced a hectare and a half of green vegetables; and, the following year it produced corn over an area of 6 hectares, rice on 4 hectares and green vegetables on 2 hectares.

The next year, the area for growing corn increased to 10 hectares, with 12 for rice and over 4 for green vegetables. For the current agricultural campaign, work is being done on an area of 21 hectares for corn (part of it is already seeded), and 12 for rice; while at the same time another area is being prepared for other crops.

The head of the cooperative, Fausto Nimia, told us: "With regard to supplies of seed, fertilizer and other production factors, we have backing from the Green Zones Office. MECANAGRO is also supporting us with machinery for preparing the soil."

The 7 April Cooperative is one of the production units whose members have a guaranteed wage at the end of each month. "Every member receives 600.00 meticals. At first, we were receiving 100.00 meticals, but with the growth of our cooperative, the wage increased," as the head of the cooperative's finances, Favorite Lavique, reported.

The head of the cooperative noted that the unit has a guaranteed quota of products of prime necessity, which prevents the cooperative members from leaving productive work when the products appear in the stores. As the green zones director Pinto Luciano, disclosed, all the collective production units in the city of Nampula receive this backing. This enables the population affiliated with cooperatives to devote all its time to production.

2909

CSO: 3442/230

MOZAMBIQUE

MAPUTO CONSUMER COOPERATIVE EARNS PROFITS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 18 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] During a year and a half of operation, the Matola B communal district consumer cooperative in the city of Maputo generated net profits of 406,000 meticals. The results of this fiscal year, submitted in detail at a meeting of the general assembly of members held yesterday morning, are the first accounting work of their kind accomplished by a management commission of this cooperative, because the previous ones had been incapable. They are also the result of an excellent organization and control shown by the members of this management.

The account of activities carried out by the management commission of the Matola B district consumer cooperative was carefully followed by over 400 individuals who completely filled the teacher training school room where the meeting was held.

Although it was limited primarily to the financial aspects, the account submitted by the chairman of the aforementioned commission, Andre Pinoca, surprised us with its insight and objectivity, something unusual in reports rendering accounts from consumer cooperatives in our city.

With 1,160 members, during the same period the aforementioned cooperative moved over 25 million (billing price) in goods; a figure which proves their concern for serving its members better.

Furthermore, this concern which has always guided the management commission was discussed at length by the secretary of the district mobilizing group.

According to this official, the present commission, the third one since the cooperative's founding, inherited a deficit situation; because the previous commissions have not yet submitted the results of their fiscal years.

"With the excuse of lack of organization of members comprising them, the fact is that the outgoing commissions have not submitted their accounts," remarked the district secretary, adding, however, that all the steps have been taken to have the aforementioned commissions submit the results of their management.

Social Aspect

In fulfillment of the socioeconomic functions for which the consumer cooperatives were created, the Matola B consumer cooperative has a social fund, with 20 percent of the previous year's profits deducted. This fund is used to provide for unforeseen situations among its members, in instances of death or other situations, and to hold recreational activities.

It also has a collective farm on which small-sized animals, as well as green vegetables, are produced.

Participating in the meeting was the head of the intercooperatives agency for Urban District 8, Abel Bonifacio, as well as members of the party residing in the district.

2909

CSO: 3442/230

MOZAMBIQUE

PEMBA POPULATION SATISFIED WITH NEW BUS NETWORK

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 2 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] Now that the first weeks since the introduction of an urban transport service into Pemba have elapsed, the residents are expressing satisfaction with the quality of the respective service. The residents, especially those who live far from the city and work in it, have been benefited with the elimination of delays in arriving at work. However, the bus drivers are complaining about the behavior of some users, who attempt to ride while intoxicated, carrying large amounts of goods or avoiding payment of the fare.

The drivers claim, in particular, that many passengers on the line in the Muchara urban zone ride while intoxicated and always carry various kinds of alcoholic beverages, using improper language and creating problems inside the buses with drivers and fare collectors.

The driver Dade Relaia, aged 35, married and the father of three children, remarked: "Since the opening of this TPU service in the city of Pemba, we have never been affected by the problem of poor operation of the buses. The service begins at 0430 hours and runs until midnight. Right now we are complaining a great deal about the passengers, who are very lacking in an understanding of our work; because many of them, mainly from Muchara, damage, abuse and dirty the buses, as well as quarreling with the crew personnel. We often try to make them understand, but up until now those conflicts have only increased."

The fare collector, Muanarabo Chaque, aged 28, and married, explains: "I am quite satisfied with my work. I have been serving in this sector for 4 years, and with the passage of the years I have been gaining experience too. Upon the creation of the TPU services, I have been faced with several problems with the passengers, concretely, on the Pemba airport route. Every day problems are created: passengers refusing to pay, intoxicated persons and bad language."

Muanarabo Chaque stresses: "The capacity of the buses is 54 seats but, with Pemba's transportation shortage, this figure is not adhered to, owing to the excessive number of people using its services and children going to school. There are individuals who ride around in the buses. They have no 'destination'

and they take seats away from the workers. It is more worthwhile transporting the children than the adults, because they understand and bring the amount of the fare with them. We are continuing our work in a spirit of comradeship and patience."

The passenger Dade Aibo, aged 39, widowed and the father of three children, claims: "I am quite pleased with the creation of the TPU, because I used to walk many kilometers on foot and arrived at work late. Now, the problem of transportation shortage that the city of Pemba was experiencing has been solved to a minimal extent. I no longer arrive at work late; and if I ever do arrive late it is due to the number of buses, which does not suffice to accommodate everyone. Therefore, as a personal opinion, I would suggest that the number of buses be increased; there should be at least two circulating on each route."

2909

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MOZAMBIQUE

DISTRICT NORMALIZES AFTER LONG PERIOD OF INSECURITY

Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese 17 Mar 85 pp 16-25

[Article by Fernando Manuel: "Morrumbala, the Return to Life"]

[Text] Since the beginning of last year, Morrumbala, 200 kilometers from Quelimane, in Zambezia Province, has been resuming normal life after nearly a year and a half of insecurity and terror which the armed bandits had imposed on it since the end of 1982. The most telling evidence of this change lies in the nearly 23,000 peasants who had been evacuated and who are currently reinstated in communal villages, where they are producing, building their houses and restoring the foundations of their lives. "There is hope here," they told us, "but not in the jungle."

It is 0845 hours on Sunday morning, 10 February. The small line of walkers among whom we were included was arriving at Tiade, 15 kilometers from the Morrumbala district headquarters in Zambezia Province. The hike was made cutting brush, along a narrow, winding path on which the dense woods were alternated with broad green cornfields, taking 2 and a half hours.

The communal village of Tiade, in the locality of Boroma, occupies a vast expanse of land extending into valleys through which the river that gave it its name flows. Constructed in May 1984, it currently houses nearly 4,500 inhabitants, the vast majority of whom are families evacuated from the zones stricken by the armed bandits up until that time. There are in the locality of Boroma two other villages like it (Muera and Boroma, the headquarters); and according to Americo Zimba, secretary of the locality, the total population is estimated at 17,500.

These are temporary numbers, since our source added: "We are still taking in more people every day."

In Tiade, the Sunday visit surprised the villagers, engaged in the most varied types of work, crouched next to their dwellings making mats, with children hanging around the grinder in which their mothers were crushing the corn. Seated in the shade of his house, the elder Windo Ambrosio, 46 years old, with

15 children, greeted us, opening with an "I'm doing very well here," when the explanation was given of our purpose in coming.

Born in Muerundo, he lends substance to his assertion, adding; "I lived with the bandits a year and a half." Windo Ambrosio relates: "When they arrived, they immediately began hunting the officials, some of whom they killed. At that time, their action was aimed more openly against the population, from whom they demanded young goats, flour and other foodstuffs. They abducted the youngest women and our children."

The old man's testimony discloses: "It was then that some of us who had let ourselves be fooled by the promises of independence and high offices realized whom they were fighting." Persecuted in particular, "because I have many young goats and hogs," Windo Ambrosio was one of the first to seek safety in the village, of which "I had already heard."

"I left my family during the night, without saying anything to anyone." Settled in Tiade, with nothing more than his hands, he now glances peacefully at the corn and says: "I have a house to live in, and a farm with corn, rice and sorghum."

Coming to Stay

Like all those who come, Windo Ambrosio was treated to the distribution of a hectare and a half of land for starting his farm, to which he added more areas; because, according to Americo Zimba, if "the person has the strength for more, we give land for cultivation." The result of this entire policy is that the peasants are viewing this campaign with great optimism regarding the results from their total of 3,000 hectares planted with corn alone.

For those who, like Dionisio Chotar, consider "every new day a miracle," the possibilities of remaking a life up to the level existing in this center of collective existence have not failed to show a "significant change," as we were told by the secretary of the locality. In the various contacts made with the village's inhabitants, the memory of the recent past, with the bandits' atrocities, could be anticipated, even from the ease and fluency with which they talked about it.

Dionisio Chotar, who arrived in the village 8 months ago, claimed that, in Coutinho, where he was living, "After the bandits' arrival I was left alone, because my wife and daughters were abducted to the base, where they ground meal to feed them." Forced to wander through the woods, because "I could only go home seeking some food at night," he used to sleep lying on top of trees: "I knew that if they caught me I would be shot."

The family's reunification took place much later, when "they were liberated by the FPLM." Joaquina Amor Oliva is still in a forced separation from her husband who, at the time of the flight, "went to settle in the village of Muera."

In Tiade, the temporary huts which all of them build during the first days after their arrival are gradually being replaced by more solid structures, because "we have come here to stay," as was claimed by Herculano Ndjize, aged 45, who lives with two younger daughters rescued from the bandits, "who raped them."

Bernardo Claudio, district secretary for economy, informed us later that the population is being encouraged to resume the raising of small species, the planting of shade and fruit trees and the improving of the housing. "This is work which was impossible for us to organize properly last year, because we gave priority to agricultural production."

Last year, the communal village of Tiade taught the first grade, with 450 pupils, and it is planned to introduce the second this year. At the same time, the peasants made contributions totaling 56 contos, the original purpose of which was to create a consumer cooperative. Later, based on consensus, it was opted to make this sum available for the creation of the cooperative, but a production one, in which, besides the traditional crops, an attempt would be made to introduce others, such as potatoes and cotton.

According to the estimates, this cooperative should go into operation by the 1985-86 campaign. "There is hope here, but not in the jungle," remarked Americo Zimba, secretary of the locality of Boroma.

The Change

The Tiade River, which fertilizes and has given its name to the village that we are discussing, is shared by another communal village, that of Denguma, which we visited the next day, Monday, after covering another 6 kilometers. Planned for the morning period, the trip ended up taking the afternoon period because, with the flash floods at night, the journey, which was made by fording the river, was more difficult at that point.

The village of Denguma, belonging to the headquarters locality, offers a landscape quite different from that of its twin, Tiade, which displays streets and houses arranged in geometric patterns in each neighborhood. In Denguma, one enters by way of side roads broken up by farms growing corn; and, to the visitor, the houses appear suddenly.

Most of the villagers living here come from Marrabuanha, nearly 15 kilometers away, which many visit in the still of the night to avoid the "madjubas" [RENAMO spies]. Showing hands that are splayed and calloused, Rosca Adela, with seven children, remarks: "The whole history of my suffering with bandits lies here."

Now well along in years, which she cannot count, Rosca Adela was captured and taken to the base, "where day and night I was grinding and making flour which I myself was not even eating." In her escape, which she made with her husband,

Pingaca Catruza, "I only managed to take a few of our children. The others went later on."

In fact, at this pace some progressed farther, ending up by settling in a neighborhood next to the district headquarters, in Anguleti, while still others went even farther into the interior, as far as Pinda. The village of Déguma already has an agricultural production cooperative "in which the peasants' participation is voluntary." Whether or not they participate, the peasants have 2 hectares available for themselves, on which they produce for self-sufficiency.

With three schools built by the residents, this village plans to expand education up to the fourth grade this year.

These centers of communal life are an example of many others created at the end of 1983 and the beginning of 1984, covering five of the 13 localities in the district of Morrumbala, according to the acting administrator, Mario Angureti. The nearly 23,000 peasants rehabilitated in them represent, still according to him, 60 percent of the population rescued from the armed bandits' zone of influence.

Data obtained at the district headquarters indicate that the banditry began appearing in this district during August 1982, with indications that it was the work of groups of defectors from Sofala, where consistent military action was taking place at the time to destroy bases and persecute the survivors.

It was in Morrumbala that the development may have begun, eventually leading to the spread of such action to other parts of the province. The information about the frequency and type of crimes committed throughout that year and in part of the next, still very vividly remembered in the conversations with people from Morrumbala, prompted us to conclude that, at present, nothing in their lives could remind them of that period of insecurity and terror that was experienced previously, even in the district headquarters.

In the interview that we held with the district leaders, we learned, for example, that, before the great offensive of the Popular Forces started, at the end of 1983, "In the district headquarters no one slept at night. The shops were always closed and weeds were growing everywhere." Commenting on the manner in which we traveled to visit the villages to which we went, it was described as "simply unthinkable: the 'madjuba' patrols used to make their rounds as close as 500 meters from the district headquarters, causing shooting in broad daylight."

The most definite change in the district's military situation, according to sources close to the military command, started in August 1983. "It was a joint effort, involving several commanders in the province," specifically, those in Mauquia, Lugela, Maganja da Costa and Morrumbala. Owing to its

economic potential, Morrumbala would, in any event, be "the center from which this activity to destroy the bandits' focal points spread."

Bitter Salt

It is enlightening to learn, based on the information that we gathered, that it was in Morrumbala, or more accurately in Murreremba, that the armed bandits set up their "provincial main base," the function of which was logistical backup for the satellite camps, training, and serving as a center to send out the countless groups which carried out attack and destruction activities in other districts.

The destruction of this base, on 27 October 1983, in a sudden operation, "was the beginning of the collapse" to the bottom, followed by other operations of lesser scope to dismantle and disperse the advanced camps.

As the statements from the peasants contacted by us attest, the recovery and the starting of the bases for rehabilitating them date back to the early months of 1984; as a result of the military offensive, but also of the political mobilization work that was being done meanwhile, and simultaneously, on the front, in a serious manner.

It is with assurance that Mario Angureti tells us: "The situation now has no possible comparison with those dreadful times in 1982 or 1983." With no false pride he nevertheless thinks that, although a great deal has been done already, there is still more to be accomplished to make the cleanup complete; because in the "dense woods there are still groups of five or six 'madjubas' at large which, from time to time, desperate from hunger and isolation, attempt to invade the peasants."

An awareness of this fact is noted in the consistent action to form a self-defense, with 6-month courses to which all the residents of the headquarters and the communal villages are sent. In early February, the second of these courses ended, one in which there was participation by students (then on vacation), officials and district directors.

Evidence of these peaceful times are the cornfields and cassava fields bordering the district headquarters, the squash and sweet potatoes and the distant echo of voices and the native music carried by the night wind over the kilometers from the nearby villages.

This year promises an abundance of food products, an abundance which will necessarily contrast with the enormous need for manufactured products that the population is undergoing. In Morrumbala, every day there is a procession of villagers with chickens, ducks and young goats walking through the town, on the lookout, and craving barter with the local gold: salt.

Present in all the statements made, salt occupies the leading place in the concerns voiced to us both in Tiade and in Denguma, in Anguleti and even at the district headquarters.

The Features of the Solution

Ejected from their former bases, the armed bandits now appear to be attempting to concentrate their forces for the purpose of strangling the vital road communication between Quelimane, the provincial capital, and the district. At the end of January, they managed to ambush and burn eight trucks carrying provisions of prime necessity, four of which were bound for Morrumbala (the others were heading toward Caia).

The last supply delivered to this district dates back to 8 November 1984. The great significance of the lack of salt, nevertheless, does not preclude the enumeration of other products on the list, whereon it is followed by soap and textiles, and the lack of production tools. The situation is all the more grievous because of the fact that all those rescued, owing to the conditions under which they arrived at the villages, came to the villages "wringing their hands," as Zenda Tepo, who traveled 30 kilometers from Mapinha to Anguleti, where he is settled, put it.

In the more distant villages which we could not reach, the acting administrator assured us that the nakedness is such that "many peasants spend the day locked inside the huts, going out only by night, covered with banana leaves."

It does not cease to be ironic to find that, in the Coelho Organizations' warehouses in Quelimane, the goods bound for Morrumbala have been stored for months, serving as food for an increasing swarm of rats, which gnaw everything from soap (an enormous pile) to fabrics, salt, chinaware, blankets and countless work tools. Along the route of the convoys, according to David Antonio Ribeiro, these storage operators have already lost six trucks and various goods, all worth 40,000 contos in damages.

Being the ones responsible for supplying the districts of Chinde and Milange as well, and in order to prevent the increasing damage originating from the deterioration of goods for Morrumbala in storage, the Coelho Organizations put forth a proposal to have this quota diverted for consumption in other areas, a proposal that appears to be dormant on the shelf, with the obvious inconveniences.

Be that as it may, based on reports from David Ribeiro, the enterprise evinced its willingness to purchase more trucks and to assume responsibility for the logistics of a special group of military whose exclusive function would be to protect the convoys to Morrumbala. However, as we learned from closely associated sources, there is the idea among the military that the main problem is not the armed bandits, "but the road, which is in very poor traffic condition, particularly on the narrow section running from the Zero crossing to the headquarters, 52 kilometers."

While the situation remains at this point the population in Morrumbala, whose supply situation is worsening daily, received with open arms the project that

exists to construct a runway for the landing of the "Antonovs," and is willing to put in hours of work on the clearing and the filling and leveling. The Coelho Organizations themselves have already expressed readiness to back the advancement of the project, contributing 96 million meticals and fuel.

The greatest obstacle now appears to lie in bureaucratic matters, because they told us in Morrumbala that, "we cannot go ahead without a decision from the province," to which they have sent the proposal. Dissatisfied, the most impatient see in the helicopter the least troublesome solution and the one most likely to be accomplished within an ideal period of time.

"We admit that the supply situation is worrisome," claims Mario Angureti, "and that the population cannot be mobilized with mere words. The continuation of this situation could jeopardize all the work accomplished up until now."

Everyday Dramas

Morrumbala is still present in the memories of Zambezia as a "paradise," where travelers coming from various locations used to spend weekends, with game and domestic animal meat, alleviating the over-abundance of agricultural production and that of small species. The largest in Zambezia Province, located at a high point with a high rate of rainfall, this district contains land of unlimited generosity. Half jokingly, the inhabitants claim that, "If you bury a rock during the night, the next day you'll have a mountain."

Hence, it was not by chance that the bandits concentrated their attention on this district, where they also set up their "provincial main base." From a talk with peasants in the villages which we visited concerning their lives before the enemy action, we learned that the count of the number of young goats and hogs belonging to each family ranged between 20 and 30, or more. An embarrassing question was that regarding chickens, ducks and pigeons, the count of which not a single one could give: "There were many," was all that they would claim.

Much of this family wealth disappeared, destroyed by mere sadism or by the greed of the bandits. The cattle, which the district's economy secretary estimates as having been about 4,000 in number (we also heard estimates of 7,000), that escaped are now roaming through the dense woods which used to supply the abundant and varied lumber from Morrumbala, "in a semi-wild state."

With the memory of the times when "everyone mistrusted everyone else," and when the nights were spent in the bush while weeds invaded homes and schools, erased, Morrumbala is again putting its potential in human hands. Instead of weeds there is corn, cassava and sweet potatoes. Unworried, the men now rove through the tembas in the dark until late at night, drinking sorghum beer and socializing on weekends to the sound of the drum.

The unusual corn production this year has made the hopes for the future even more gloomy, because the same diesel fuel that the oil lamps have lacked since the end of last year is also lacking in the mill, where the grain would be converted into flour. It is for lack of diesel that the electric power plant is at a standstill and the traveler in Morrumbala is forced to go to bed at 1900 hours.

"It is a grievous situation," remarks Jose Vicente Antao, aged 47, a merchant who has resided in the district 23 years. The owner of a store (which has only its shelves), a bar and a mill, Jose Antao claims that the last supplies, provided at the end of last year, "I sold in a little under 2 hours." In January of this year, he went in person to Quelimane "where I obtained diesel and a vehicle made available by defense for transportation." The car broke down before the departure and did not operate. "It's just as well," he claims, "because if it had run it would have been caught in the ambush in which the other eight trucks were caught."

His situation is no different from that of other merchants who, regularly, every morning, fling open the doors, push out a chair and greet those passing by, seated at the door of the shop. Nevertheless, Jose Vicente Antao considers himself lucky because of the fact that he doesn't "have to pay rent on the house, because it is mine."

This cannot be said of the management of the Ship Inn, the only one operating in the district headquarters, with 13 beds. Since the times when "there were people even requesting to sleep sitting up, on chairs," Alfredo William Chauque and Inacio Lucas Novel now cite the fact that, "sometimes a month goes by without our even receiving one customer." It is a situation that has reached the point of being paradoxical, because, "While we need the customers in order to pay the 7,300 meticals for house rent, their arrival poses for us the problem of how to feed them."

There is food in Morrumbala, and plenty. What is lacking is salt and cloth for bartering. Realizing that "the only solution for this is supplies," Jose Vicente Antao began raising chickens, ducks and hogs, with which he guarantees lunch and dinner every day in his bar. He comments: "This land is rich; I have my savings here and I am going to die here."

It cannot be denied. During the second week of February, classes began. The usually quiet main avenue of the district headquarters was filled with noisy groups of children, up and down, carrying grass to cover their old classrooms. And in April the harvests begin....

2909

CSO: 3442/235

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

CHARGES AGAINST HIDROMOC DIRECTOR--Beira--The diversion of 500 contos in company funds; the lack of consideration for the party structures and for the workers; the suspension of literacy classes in 1984, in the middle of the school year: these are some of the charges against the branch director of HIDROMOC [Mozambican Water Company] which this newspaper learned from a source in the City Committee and which were leveled during a visit by Lourenco Marra, first secretary of the city of Beira, to the water company yesterday. According to our source, the director is also accused of having beaten a worker when the latter demanded his rights and of spitting in the face of some of his subordinates employed as mechanics, saying they were "going around dirty." The source added that HIDROMOC is not complying with Law 4/80, the workers are prevented from presenting their problems to the proper authority and last week the director threatened an employee in the accounting department. According to the source, [because of] these and other issues presented by the HIDROMOC workers, the party structures will study the matter and arrive at a solution, taking the necessary measures to restore labor harmony in the company. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 13 Mar 85 p 2] 6362

ACCORD SIGNED WITH UNICEF--An accord has just been signed in Tete Province to guarantee an accelerated recovery program for the food supply system and nutrition in Changara District. A group of technicians of various specialties is already in that region to carry out the program. The agreement was signed by Eduardo Arao, governor of Tete Province, and by the UNICEF representative in Mozambique. The UNICEF regional director for southern and eastern Africa was also present at the signing ceremony. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 13 Mar 85 p 2] 6362

NAMPULA MILITARY SCHOOL APPROVES PLAN--The Nampula Military School approved its supplementary plan for the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of national independence, in a 2-day conference last week. The participants, who included the commissioners of the military units and subunits in Nampula Province, also assessed the degree to which the decisions of the national meeting of the FAM/FPLA [Mozambican Armed Forces] Political Commission had been implemented. The participants in the recently-ended meeting also approved the plan of activities for the current year. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 13 Mar 85 p 2] 6362

NIASSA REORGANIZES PRISON SYSTEM--The prison system in Niassa Province will soon be reorganized by the provincial People's Court, presiding judge Arlindo

Moises announced to the news media. The reorganization, which will be conducted throughout this year, is basically intended to take in the principal crime foci. Thus, district delegacies will be established where there are penal establishments. Each district office will be responsible for enlisting the prisoners in productive activities so they may contribute to the nation's economic development, in accordance with the principle that work is rehabilitative, Moises noted. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 12 Mar 85 p 3] 6362

TRUCKS FROM HOLLAND--The Netherlands recently delivered 22 DAF trucks to the provincial department to prevent and combat natural disasters in Sofala [DPCCN], to back the operations assisting the victims of the drought, according to the DPCCN provincial director, Manuel Nogueira. Of these trucks, 14 are to go to Manica Province, and eight to Sofala. The DAF's will be used primarily to carry corn donated by the Dutch Government to the areas stricken by the drought, and there are plans for the arrival of 4,000 tons of this grain donated by that European country, within a short time. Previously, the Sofala department to prevent and combat natural disasters had received 16 trucks of the same type and 8,000 tons of corn from the Netherlands. Of the vehicles, 11 remained for Sofala and the rest went to Manica, according to the distribution plan devised for this purpose. As the reporter from DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE learned, during a visit paid yesterday to the DAF truck maintenance station, the governments of the Netherlands and Mozambique have signed an agreement guaranteeing technical maintenance for these trucks for a 2-year period which has been implemented since mid-1984. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 13 Mar 85 p 3] 2909

GOVERNORS PROMOTE SMALL PROJECTS--The governors of Maputo, Inhambane and Gaza and the chairman of the city of Maputo's executive council have decided to devote more attention to the development of small projects for multiplying the surplus agricultural production. During the first phase, the decision will affect mainly the corn, sorghum, peanut, rice, cassava, nhemba bean, sweet potato and green vegetable crops. The resolution was adopted at the end of the meeting held between Governors Jose Moiane, Pascoal Zandameta and Aurelio Manave, and the EC chairman, Alberto Massavarnhane, which concluded in the city of Inhambane. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 13 Mar 85 p 3] 2909

CSO: 3442/227

NAMIBIA

GENERAL OFFICER OF SWA TERRITORY FORCE ON DEVELOPMENTS, FUNCTIONS

Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English Mar 85 pp 11-13

[Interview with Major General G. L. Meiring, SSAS, General Officer of the South West Africa Territory Force]

[Text]

Q. General, as this post that you hold is very much in the eye of the media could we start off with a brief outline of your background.

A. I was commissioned in 1961 as a member of Bloemfontein Commando and after obtaining a MSc in physics was appointed to the rank of Captain in the permanent force in 1963 as an instructor at the school of signals. Later I attended in the United Kingdom what was called the Officers Long Electronic Training Course for post graduates. Then I filled a number of Staff posts until I took over as Director of Telecommunications. After which I was appointed as Officer Commanding Witwatersrand Command and then back to Headquarters and I held the position of Deputy Chief of the Army before being transferred to my present command.

Q. What exactly is your function here, and your area of responsibility?

Q. I have two appointments. General Officer Commanding of South West African Command and General Officer Commanding of South African Army Forces in South West Africa, and as such I am responsible for the Western Theatre of Operations. I am also responsible as General Officer Commanding the South West Africa Territory (SWATF) and for building this force.

Q. Thank you, and now that we have established your areas of responsibility, what is the South West Africa Territory Force (SWATF) and its present and future tasks?

A. The Territory Force is being established to enable South West Africa once it has become independent to safeguard itself and to have a force and conduct operations. In fact to have an army at its disposal for all the tasks that such an army might be required to undertake. In the meantime we are building this force out of the people of South West Africa for the people of South West Africa. The force consists of a number of battalions in the field, of the National Service element and support elements. We will come to the exact disposition later if you would like to, but the

main purpose of this force is to establish peace in this part of the world.

Q. How would you describe your relationship with the Administrator General and the Administration.

A. At the moment it is very cordial, there is no problem, we get along very well. I am responsible to the Administrator General for certain monies for this Territory Force and we are working to put the entire SWATF under the administrative powers of the Executive Power in SWA so in fact I have no problems in my liaison with these officials.

Q. Over the years there have been numerous allegations that the SWATF is simply an extension of the South African Defence Force, and is not really independent.

A. At this moment in time it is correct to say that it is not an independent force, it is working to be an independent force, but because SWA is not independent so the force also cannot be independent, but the force in fact consists only of SW Africans in its entire structure. The force is independent in such a way that at present 61% of all fighting soldiers on the border are members of SWATF units. So I think that this proves that in the future, should it become necessary, that this force can become completely independent and be able to do its stuff.

Q. Where is the recruiting area for the Force and what methods do you use to obtain your personnel.

A. The recruiting area is South West Africa. We recruit for the various battalions and we recruit in the area where the battalions are established. We simply go out and say we have so many vacancies and we normally get an over-subscription to these vacancies — up to three or four times. We also have a national service system whereby everybody is liable to be called up as a National Serviceman. Basically, the same as in the Republic, the only difference being that all colours and creeds are included in the National Service.

Q. And the other racial groups?

A. All of them. Irrespective of race, religion, creed, education. We have at the moment an education limit of Standard 6.

Q. So you would say then that the racial composition of the forces is in line with the population percentages of the country?

A. Yes, definitely.

Q. On your compulsory call up, what is the initial period of service and what is their on-going military commitment and will these periods be a fixed period of time or adjusted to meet anticipated threat?

A. At the moment it is exactly the same as in South Africa because the two forces are so closely related it is very difficult to have another system in South West Africa, otherwise you can get a 'dodger' from the one country to the other. But the initial service is two years and the extended service later, as in the Republic but, as you say, this could be and would be amended as required from time to time.

Q. How has the local populace reacted to the need for compulsory military service?

A. The military service we are doing up until now was viewed very sympathetically by everybody. I have delegations

coming and saying why can't we get more people from a specific group to do national service, and so on and so forth. We are in the process of introducing the extension to the defence act which came into being in South Africa a couple of years ago, whereby the so-called 'Pops' army was established and to this there was a hue and cry from certain elements. But our first voluntary registration for this service in the areas of Outjo and Tsumeb gave us a 95% response. So I would say that the population feel very well disposed to National Service and service in the armed forces.

Q. What are the criteria within the SWATF for promotion?

A. We have slightly amended the criteria from those in South Africa — for arguments sake — to become an officer in the SADF it is necessary to have a matriculation certificate. We are putting more emphasis on our system for selection than on their qualifications but our minimum is Standard 8, so there is a slight modification, but apart from that the courses that they have to attend are exactly the same as for the Army in South Africa.

Q. Colour does not enter it?

A. No, colour does not enter into it at all.

Q. Up until recently the recruiting was to some extent based on the idea of voluntary service. Will this system be retained and incorporated in the structure?

A. Yes, definitely.

Q. As this is a new army that you are building, what are you doing in respect of a command element?

A. The command element at the moment is our biggest problem for such a new army. We are trying our utmost to get as many people from South West Africa to qualify for command and to enter into officer courses. We are building our leader element from the ground — we have lots of volunteers from the former ex Citizen Force people who want to become our officers in the SWATF. But it will take time for a complete command structure to be established, but we are working to this objective.

Q. In relation to the previous question, two other points arise: firstly, how does this newly created army cope with the training requirements?

A. Basic training for National Service and certain officer training we are doing here. We have a military school Okahandja where we do advanced training; we have also basic training elements in Otavi and we use some of the SADF training facilities at Walvis Bay. And for more advanced courses we have an arrangement with the SADF to send people on specific courses there. There are a number of people on these courses and on technical courses with them at present.

Q. Secondly, what are you doing in respect of equipment?

A. The equipment we use at the moment such as armoured vehicles are from the SA Army and the SADF. We are at the moment buying certain support equipment in South West Africa itself. As for Arms, we are getting these arms from South Africa.

Q. So the embargo is not hampering you in any way?

A. It is not hampering me any more than it is South Africa because at the moment we are being assisted and supplied as an integral part of the South African forces.

Q. How would you describe the philosophy of the SWATF?

A. This question would require a long answer, but I think we can summarize by saying it is a force, it is a people's army, for the people and for the safeguard of the government of the day.

Q. Have you had time to analyse the results of the recent large scale military exercise conducted by your force?

A. I think a bit of over-emphasis was placed on that exercise. It was a normal exercise that we were conducting. It was quite large. I was very satisfied with it. As you know, this exercise was more of a conventional nature — it consisted more of South African elements than it did of Territory Force elements because as you know the SWATF is mostly made up of semi-conventional elements, not so much a conventional force. But, personally, I was very satisfied with it. It was part of the force that was trained that was my quick reaction force. I was very happy with it.

Q. Are you planning for a large permanent force or is the idea to base the force more on a Citizen Army?

A. It is yes and no. We have a fine Permanent Force and we have got most of our elements in our South West Africa Territory Force at this moment in time. It is so called full time force elements. It is a voluntary service — people come in voluntarily and they do it for extended periods. At the moment they can be there for life, they can be as permanent as they wish but, as in every other line, we have found that there is a sort of rotation period of about 5 years. People tend to do work in any sphere and then go and look somewhere else; but to come back to your question: yes, I think the major elements of this force will be of a permanent nature. It is not the same as what is called the permanent force as in South Africa but rather of a permanent nature, but we will also have large elements of the voluntary and national service nature.

Q. General, will the force you are building be adequate for the defence of the territory accepting that the threat does not escalate beyond the existing situation?

A. I think the force will be able to counter any revolutionary threat against this country, provided of course that it does not escalate. We will not be able, in the near foreseeable future, to be able to confront a large conventional army, for that we will have to have outside help such as that from South Africa. But for any other operation, as for instance as the war is being conducted at the present time, I feel that in the near future that this force will be very adequate, equipped and able to cope with such eventualities.

Q. Are you expecting to be able to develop some type of working arrangement with other military organisations that could be beneficial for training and the overall standard of the Force?

A. I think anyone building an army will be very stupid not to do that. I think this will be an on-going thing and we look forward to continuing our workings with the SA Defence Force even when this country becomes independent. I fancy other forces find it necessary to invite us, we will be very happy to go into any sort of liaison with them.

SEYCHELLES

ARMY GROWS OWN FOOD IN BID FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Victoria SEYCHELLES WEEKEND NATION in English 30 Mar 85 pp 1-2

[Text]

"SELF-SUFFICIENCY" is a key word on the lips of not just fishermen, farmers and manufacturers, but of soldiers too.

The country's army camps are all producing as much of their own food as possible so as to reduce their reliance on the state, contribute to food production and economic development and remind the soldiers of the importance of being able to feed, as well as defend, yourself.

To people travelling along the east coast road, the neat, well-stocked vegetable garden of the Pointe Larue Army Camp (PLC) at the southern end of the airport runway has been a familiar sight for a long time.

With all the soldiers taking their turn tending the vegetable beds, the 200 metre by 75 metre garden not only produces all the eggplants, cabbages, chillis, green beans and other crops the camp needs, but also turns out a surplus to be sold to the Seychelles Marketing Board.

But unknown to most people, the soldiers' farming efforts at the PLC have not ended there. The soldiers also keep some goats and cultivate

large banana plots.

Some time ago the former Ile du Sud-Est, a small island opposite the PLC now joined to Mahe by the southern end of the airport runway, was designated a restricted area for security reasons.

That of course did not mean that the land had to be left idle. As the new National Development Plan states: "The Government believes that no land, especially arable land, should be left idle or under-utilized as long as there are people to cultivate it and make it productive."

So three months ago, PLC soldiers got busy with their machetes and hoes, clearing land and planting three large banana plots.

Now the PLC is not only self-sufficient in cooking and table bananas also, but it sometimes has enough to share with other army camps. The plantations, which also contain some paw paw trees, yield no less than nine different types of bananas.

A spokesman for the Pointe Larue Army Camp said yesterday that farming and related activities were popular among the soldiers. "They generally show a lot of interest," he said.

SEYCHELLES

NEW FISHING VESSEL DESIGNED IN LA DIGUE

Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION in English 28 Mar 85 pp 1, 10

[Text]

The first of these large two-masted fishing schooners to be built by the La Digue-based Boatbuilders Ltd, a 21.5-metre vessel made of wood, has been completed and remains to be fitted with engines and generators before launching in about three months' time. A second boat is half-finished and the keel for a third is being laid.

It is the facilities for comfort and safety on board that are exciting the interest of Seychellois fishermen, in particular current and aspiring young sailors, the most. Stretching over 20 metres, the schooners will be far more spacious than the 10-metre single-mast boats used today. The current vessels are sometimes crammed with up to 10 men for trips to the far-away fishing banks.

The new boats will have modern kitchens using gas cookers and where food can be cooked in all types of weather.

The sleeping quarters in the bow will be away from the sections where fish will be stored and will be fitted with sculptured bunks, each with an overhead lamp. Each bunk will have its own locked cupboard.

Proper toilet and shower facilities will also be available and the vessels will even be fitted with sick bays.

Recreational facilities to allow reading and other activities have also been thought of.

Communications with the shore or other ships will be through modern radios and the boats will also be fitted with sophisticated navigational aids such as radars.

Fishermen who have been looking forward to the day when Seychellois vessels are fitted with modern technology for catching fish will be happy to learn that the schooners being built at La Digue will also have echo sounders and fish finders. The schooners will carry sails as a safety measure and to save fuel when the wind is up.

These fishing vessels will also be the first to be built in Seychelles complete with generators for making ice on board to keep the fish fresh. Each of the boats will be able to carry 25 tonnes of fish.

To make fishing easier and more productive, each schooner will carry two long-boats which will enable fishermen to move away from the mothership to nearby fishing grounds.

Commenting on this new generation of fishing vessels, the General Manager of Boatbuilders Ltd, Mr. Gregoire Payet, said this week that these

big boats had been designed to go further out to sea and to stay there longer than the present schooners. He said the new schooners would carry plenty of fresh water for up to 14 fishermen and crew on long fishing expeditions.

All the new facilities, Mr Payet said, had been considered to make fishing a more exciting occupation, specially for young people trained at the Seychelles Polytechnic. He said that since Seychelles wanted to develop its fisheries into an important economic activity, then fishing as an occupation had to be made more appealing.

Thus the facilities being provided aboard the new type of fishing vessels under construction on La Digue were aimed at greatly improving both living and working conditions at sea.

Mr Payet is hoping that traditional fishermen and young

people who are thinking of earning a living at sea will get the opportunity to inspect the first of these new fishing vessels when it is launched sometime in June.

He very much believed that if this happened, young people would no longer hesitate to take up a career at sea. "The hardships suffered by the traditional sailors nowadays will eventually disappear. I think all sailors will accept the new type of fishing boats that are being built now," he added.

With the vast opportunities for development that exist in the fishing industry in Seychelles, this is one sector of the economy where jobs will be easily available. And there is good money for people in this profession since fish is one commodity from Seychelles which is fast becoming an important export item, and a commodity that the Seychellois will never tire of.

CSO: 3400/949

SEYCHELLES

BRIEFS

SOVIET, FRENCH NAVIES ASSIST IN SEARCH--A Soviet warship and a French reconnaissance plane joined Seychellois aircraft and vessels over the past five days in searching for three men missing off Remire island since last week, a Seychelles spokesman announced yesterday. The three men are Mr Yvon Marine, Mr Michel Tamboo and Mr Jimmy Hoareau, all workers on Remire, a coral island 245 kilometres west of Mahe. They left to go fishing on calm seas at 11 a.m. last Wednesday in a yellow-five-metre, open fibre-glass boat powered by a 25 horsepower outboard motor. When the men did not return late that afternoon, the island alerted Port Victoria. The Seychelles People's Navy and Airforce searched the Amirantes group of islands, of which Remire forms part, late into the night and requested the help of a Soviet frigate and a Brequet Atlantique reconnaissance plane of the French navy that were visiting Mahe at the time. Two local inter-island schooners which were in the area, the Argo and the Curieuse, also gave a helping hand. The French plane is still involved in the operation. Search authorities have appealed to all vessels in the area to keep a sharp look-out for the missing boat. [Text] [Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION in English 27 Mar 85 p 10]

FIRST NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR ACCREDITED--Norway's first Ambassador to Seychelles, Mr Olav Dorum, presented his credentials to President Albert Rene at State House yesterday. Mr Dorum, who is based in Dar es Salaam, arrived in Seychelles last weekend for a week of introductory calls on government leaders. The Ambassador, who is 63, started working in foreign affairs in 1964. Between then and 1974 he served in his country's Permanent Mission at the United Nations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Norway's Permanent Mission in Geneva, and as the resident representative of the Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD) in Zambia and Botswana. Mr Dorum was appointed a Head of Division in the Norwegian Foreign Ministry in 1974, Counsellor of his country's embassy in Cairo in 1978, and Charge d'Affaires in Beirut the following year. Since 1982 he has been Ambassador to Tanzania. [Text] [Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION in English 27 Mar 85 p 1]

CSO: 3400/949

SOUTH AFRICA

SADF ASSISTS POLICE IN TEMBISA MOB ACTION CONTROL

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 3 Apr 85 pp 1, 2

[Article by Tony Stirling]

[Text]
SOUTH African Defence Force units were yesterday deployed in Tembisa, on the East Rand, to support the police.

This was confirmed yesterday by a spokesman for the SADF in Pretoria, which has already said that the SADF is lending support to the police in the Eastern and Northern Cape.

A police spokesman was yesterday unable to confirm the nature of the operation involving SADF members in the township where Defence Force members were involved in a major crime prevention exercise last year.

He said he could not confirm the presence of troops in Tembisa, nor point to any specific operation in progress in the township.

Police have, however, emphasised since the deployment of troops at the weekend that the SADF men are being used to assist the police in patrols and the manning of roadblocks.

Meanwhile, the situation in the Eastern Cape appeared to have quietened yesterday after a night in which sporadic incidents of violence were reported.

Just before dawn yesterday a one-year-old baby was burnt to death at Veeplaas, near Uitenhage, when a shack was petrol-bombed, setting alight eight others.

A police spokesman said bird shot, tear smoke and rubber bullets were used on various occasions to disperse mobs during unrest in seven Eastern Cape townships.

The police action had been in response to various incidents, including the setting up of burning road blockades by a mob and the stoning of police and private vehicles.

The spokesman confirmed the arrest of five people for an incident in the Port Elizabeth area in which two Black schools were set alight, causing damage estimated at R50 000.

In the Free State a man was shot in the head and a woman in the chest in the Thabong township near Welkom yesterday after a group of agitators attacked a vehicle. A Thabong councillor was hit on the head with a sharp instrument.

Captain Johan Fouche, SA Police public relations officer for

Northern Free State, said the unrest in the township broke out when agitators stoned a Development Board vehicle.

The vehicle was badly damaged. The councillor was attacked when he got out of the vehicle to inspect the damage. He was hit on the head with a sharp object and chased by the agitators when he fled.

Two shots were fired at the attackers. Mr Nelson Nyambane (27) of Western Holdings Gold Mine was hit in the head and Mrs Susan Nbanyo (25), in the chest. Their condition was described as serious.

Capt Fouche said there were no further incidents and everything was "back to normal".

CSO: 3400/950

SOUTH AFRICA

EASTERN CAPE UNREST, FIREBOMBINGS NOTED

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 3 Apr 85 p 1

[Text]

THE unrest in the Eastern Cape claimed its youngest victim so far when a year-old child burnt to death when the shack in which she lived was fire-bombed.

The fire occurred on Monday night in the shanty town of Veeplaas outside Port Elizabeth and six other shacks were destroyed before the blaze could be brought under control by firemen.

The police liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, Colonel Gerrie van Rooyen, said the name of the child had not yet been ascertained.

In another incident the unrest touched on a white area for the first time when a car parked in the driveway of a Despatch house was burnt in a suspected firebomb attack.

The car belonged to Mr J Colesky, who told police he saw two men running from the scene towards the nearby black township and fired two shots but did not hit anyone.

Colonel van Rooyen said that police vehicles in the townships near Uitenhage, Port Elizabeth and Grahamstown were stoned and in Langa township outside Uitenhage barricades were erected in some streets and set alight.

He said when police moved in to dismantle the barricades they were attacked by stone throwers and in these and other incidents tear smoke, rubber bullets and shotguns were used to disperse mobs.

Arsonists

He added that two members of the police force and four members of the Defence Force were slightly injured by stones and that five people had been arrested.

In the Port Elizabeth township of KwaZakhele two schools were attacked by arsonists.

In Grahamstown the home of the mayor of the black Rini Town Council, Mr Colley Draai, was allegedly attacked by a mob of 500 stone-throwing youths on Sunday night. Mr Draai said he fired several warning shots from a revolver before they dispersed. He did not think he had hit anyone.

However, Colonel van Rooyen said that a wounded 16-year-old youth was found by police in the same township at 12.30 am on Monday. He had a bullet wound in the stomach and was admitted to Livingstone Hospital in Port Elizabeth.

Colonel van Rooyen said that it was not yet known who had shot the youth and said police were investigating the incident.

CSO: 3400/950

SOUTH AFRICA

SPOKESMAN FOR PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT ON NEW CONSTITUTION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 30 Mar 85 pp 12, 13

[Interviews conducted by Brian Stuart]

[Text]

EXPERIENCE without the new constitution over the past three months has not changed the basic objections to it by the Opposition political parties. But then none would think of withdrawing.

Interviews with leaders and spokesman of all political parties in the new constitution show that the one over-riding issue on which there is consensus is that some accommodation must be made for Black South Africans.

Mr P W Botha has initiated urgent talks aimed at solving the crucial issue, namely that of citizenship rights. In political circles there is agreement that all other factors affecting Blacks will depend on the Government's solution to this problem.

The National Party says the constitution is "open-ended" in regard to how Blacks are to be accommodated, while at the same time stating the Party's opposition to direct representation in the existing Parliament.

It is here that it parts company with all the Opposition parties, accord-

ing to their spokesmen. But there is no agreement among them on how Blacks should be represented in Parliament, with the exception of the Conservative Party which proposes ethnically separate states for all.

The other opposition parties still maintain their objection to a constitution based on separation in three different Houses.

'Reject idea of fourth chamber'

THE National Party feels that the new Parliamentary system is working well at all levels.

Mr Chris Rencken, chief information officer of the National Party, said the new constitution had been in operation since last September and the Cabinet and Parliament had been functioning since January.

"During this first six months of its operational existence, I think the constitution has worked singularly well."

Consensus had been reached on all the "General Affairs" Bills presented to the standing committees, with the single exception of the Police Special Funds Bill, which would not be dealt with by the other mechanisms provided in the constitution for such a situation.

"This is a very good record and shows that the system is working well at every level from the Presidency and Cabinet down to the committees."

Mr Rencken said the NP's ultimate goal was "to provide everybody who lives in South Africa with equality of opportunity, constitutional, political and in every other sphere."

This was why the NP was now concentrating its efforts on resolving the remaining constitutional questions, which concerned political expression for Black people outside of the National States up to the highest level.

"The NP will continue its efforts in this direction until its stated goal of equality of opportunity has been reached."

His party did not envisage the tricameral system developing into a single House of Parliament and also rejected the idea of a fourth chamber for Blacks.

"Because of the diversity of origins, traditions and customs of the various population communities in South Africa, the National Party's point of departure is that it is impossible to accommodate all of them constitutionally and politically in exactly the same way."

Mr Rencken said NP policy of Black inclusion in decision-making rested on dialogue with leaders of the Black community itself. In this respect its constitutional policy was "open-ended."

The NP would not prescribe how Blacks were to exercise their political aspirations — this depended on negotiation.

THE New Republic Party believes in a fourth chamber for Blacks, with all four chambers sitting together on "general affairs".

Mr Bill Sutton, NPR leader, is a member of the

President's Council. He said the "shaking-down and learning process" of the new constitutional systems had taken place very smoothly.

The three Chambers were now united through all being represented on the standing committees. Members of each of these committees were beginning to develop a common loyalty which he believed would present problems for ministers of the portfolios concerned as this common loyalty within committees increased.

"The essence of the standing committee is that members should step back from caucus lines. I think we are feeling our way towards that and as it happens it will change politics in South Africa. The political party itself will have a different role to play."

Mr Sutton said the NRP believed in the creation of a House of Deputies as a fourth chamber for Black representatives.

"We also propose a federal council, a Senate-like Chamber, as a guarantor of group rights. This chamber should have equal numbers drawn from each of the four Chambers with rights to veto legislation which detracts from group rights. It would possibly take the place of the President's Council."

The NRP also believed that in such a system the Presidency should rotate from House to House as in the Swiss constitution. "This would mean that the military arm, police force and so on can never be used by one group against another."

Election for the four

Houses should be within the groups themselves. Control of "own affairs" should be guaranteed by allocating to the Houses specific taxation sources as in West Germany. Mr Sutton said that sheer practical necessity would force the present three-Chamber system into a single Parliament on "general affairs" issues.

"Once you include Blacks in decision-making, you change all of politics in South Africa. The debate is then no longer about political rights for Blacks, but who gets what share of the cake. In other words, you then talk about the Budget, about the distribution of the proceeds of taxation."

"Deciding on the allocation of funds is the fruit of power. At that time apartheid is thrown out of the window."

Conservative Party 'Process will be fatal to White rule

The Conservative party wants the present three-chamber Parliament changed to three parliaments ruling over separate homelands.

Dr Andries Treurnicht, leader of the CP, said his party viewed the new constitution of "the beginning of a process which

will be fatal to White rule on White affairs."

The full effects of the new system had yet to be seen, but it reflected an inability of the White man to execute his own will because he was blocked by the two other Houses.

There were now two people of colour in the Cabinet, which would inevitably lead to pressure for greater representation.

Dr Treurnicht said: "Because in our view the results would be so fatal that they must be stopped as soon as possible, we see our aim as becoming the future Government of the country. And in this regard we do not believe that 'becoming the official Opposition' is necessarily a station on the road."

In participating in the new system, the CP aimed at creating of each of the three Houses a separate Parliament, with its own Cabinet, governing its own territory.

On the practicability of such a policy, Dr Treurnicht said there had been great success with Bophuthatswana, creating a nation with its own citizenship and independent government, from a group of loose tribes scattered over seven separate pieces of territory. Such as system worked.

He was also opposed to moves that would merge the three present Houses into a single unit, even on 'General Affairs'. Such a step would mean an end to separating "Own Affairs" from "General Affairs." "You land up in a single state with all the consequences of majority rule."

Regarding the future of Blacks, Dr Treurnicht said the Government had

been warned that if it included Indians and Coloureds, it had no moral grounds on which to exclude Blacks.

The future, as the CP saw it, was one of interdependence with independence, implying a wide measure of co-operation between independent states in Southern Africa. In this respect, urban Blacks should exercise their political rights within the context of their cultural and ethnic homelands.

Democratic workers' party Democratic Workers' Party

THE Democratic Workers' Party, official opposition in the House of Representatives, says the Labour Party is being "too accommodating" to the NP, which is delaying reform.

Mr Dennis de la Cruz, leader of the three-man Opposition party, said

that in the tricameral system, it was the White representatives who had to be persuaded that discriminatory legislation had to be scrapped.

On the other hand, his party saw the LP, because they formed party of a coalition Government with the NP, as being prepared to set fairly long time-tables for an end to certain discriminatory measures which affected all people of colour.

"But I do believe we can never again revert to square A. The process has begun, and inevitably the three separate chambers of Parliament must merge into one. That will definitely take place."

Mr De La Cruz said the system was working in that people were finding one another, were discussing issues, in the standing committees. Coloured and Indians MPs also found that the Government's doors were also open.

"We as the Democratic Workers' Party are using the system to underline the grievances, shortcomings and disparities that exist in South Africa. We have brought these issues to the urgent notice of the Government.

"Because of the loaded nature of the system and the built-in majority of

the NP, which is still the governing party of Parliament, success or failure in reform will depend on how soon they, the NP, are prepared to scrap the most discriminatory laws."

At present the NP controlled the country through Parliament, through Government departments, Provincial Councils, control boards and a large array of other bodies all dominated by Whites.

The DWP believed in a federal system of government based on regional representation. "I do not believe in a one-man-one-vote system. We will have to have a qualified franchise, with equal qualifications for White, Brown or Black.

"That Blacks must be represented is obvious. The average White, Indian or Coloured person is completely ignorant about the real situation in Black areas. We are out of touch.

"At the same time we must recognise that Black people are not separate. They are part and parcel of the South African nation and we cannot be surprised when they give vent to their frustrated feelings while they are excluded."

SOUTH AFRICA

SLABERT EXPLORES PFP'S FUTURE

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 24 Mar 85 p 16

[Article by Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert]

[Text]

LATELY people have been saying the following things to me about the PFP: "Since P W Botha's opening speech for Parliament the Government is moving more and more in your direction. Don't you think the time for coalition politics is going to come? What the Government is going to lose to the rightwing they will have to make up with you and the PFP. Don't you think party politics is going to become more and more irrelevant as we move towards a government of national unity" etc etc and "What is the PFP's game plan of strategy after the next General Election?"

I wish to make two responses to these statements. The one is that it is quite remarkable that these questions are being put in all seriousness to the PFP when many commentators wrote us off after the referendum.

These questions alone are sufficient evidence that such conclusions were entirely off the mark and unfounded.

The second response is that the nature of the questions and the statements are such that for me to respond to them in all seriousness on behalf of the PFP would be tantamount to a poker player declaring his hand before the cards have been dealt, or the bets been placed.

We are entering a dynamic phase of white politics in which opportunities and strategies will continually have to be reassessed and redefined. As long as one has clarity about the goal one is pursuing, one should be flexible about the strategies which are employed to achieve that goal.

Apart from a certain irksome superficiality which is implied in the statements and questions, I do believe they are indicative of a mood and a climate in white politics at the moment.

There is no doubt that there is some kind of shifting of assumptions, of perceptions and attitudes taking place in the white political arena. One senses this in the analyses of political commentators and also in the lobby talk in Parliament.

It is a task which they do not really want, are not prepared for, and do not really understand. We see it in the way in which they try clumsily and cautiously to come to terms with black urbanisation, with citizenship, with influx control and with their own traditional support.

The Government finds itself in a classical political squeeze-play, between rightwing pressure against change and reform pressure for change. It is either going to be pulled back by those behind it, or it is going to be pulled forward by those ahead of it.

It is against the background of these trends and developments that the PFP has to define its strategy and role in the next couple of years.

The PFP is not left or right of Government, but ahead of it when it comes to the process of reform.

This Government after three-and-a-half decades of trying to implement a policy that has now failed, does not have the *ABILITY*, the *WILL*, the *TALENT* or the *CREDIBILITY* to govern effectively and successfully in post-apartheid South Africa.

It is being overtaken by the time-table for reform. It cannot fix this country on its own, even if it wants to.

Negotiation and reform politics cannot be single party, single group or single individual politics.

In fact, after the next General Election
[paragraph incomplete]

I believe this shifting was precipitated not when the Government changed its policy towards coloureds and Asians through the tri-cameral Parliament, but when it ton, this country will not and cannot be governed and dominated by one political party. We are moving irrevocably to a future where white, coloured, Indian and black will, either informally or formally, indirectly or directly, participate in the decision-making process and government of South Africa.

Even the Nationalist Party begins to acknowledge this in its own clumsy way of having a coloured and Indian member in its own Cabinet.

I believe the PFP has the talent, the ability, the credibility and the will in the politics of the future to play a key role in the power structure preparing for a post-apartheid South Africa, and it is our intention to play that role to the end and to the full.

[Paragraph beginning missing]
started changing its policy towards blacks, as indicated in the speech of the President at the opening of Parliament. This is what has really grabbed the imagination.

If one reads the President's speech carefully, one thing is disturbingly clear: one comes away with a greater sense of certainty as to what the Government is trying to move away from, rather than what they are trying to move towards.

In other words, one has a feeling of "they don't know where they are going, but they are on their way. And this is definitely better than where we all were."

So what must the PFP prepare for in this new process of change? What kind of role must it try and hammer out for itself? Let me identify some trends against which the PFP will have to position itself.

It is quite evident that we are well on our way to experiencing the disintegration and dissolution of the apartheid policy and ideology.

The Government plan is coming apart at the seams. The blacks know it, we know it and the Nats know it.

This coming apart is not the result of any one organisation, individual or group's

activity. It is a combination of factors, perhaps most important of all the rate of population increase, the tempo of black urbanisation, black demands for education and job opportunities, the fall in the gold price, the exchange rate of the Rand to the Dollar, the drought, the Government's mismanagement of the economy and of its own political programme.

All these factors somehow in 1985 came to a head and defined the crisis in which we find ourselves now.

Whether the Government or South Africa likes it or not, we are already beginning to prepare ourselves for living in a post-apartheid society. This is going to present us with new challenges in our cities, in our race relations, in education, in labour and in government administration.

Ironically, this Nationalist Party Government has the historically important task to begin dismantling old-style apartheid and preparing South Africa for the post-apartheid era.

As we begin to prepare for the next General Election, whether it be in three years, two years or next year, the white electorate will have to decide whether they want the Nationalist Party Government to move back in time, spirit and attitude to the futile politics represented by the Conservative Party, or whether it wants to move forward to the reform politics represented by the PFP.

This is the crucial significance of the next General Election.

The PFP is determined that after that election no effective reform can take place without our mediation, assistance and contribution.

We have the flexibility and the creativity to play a leading role in the decision-making processes of this country and negotiation politics.

Two years ago I started talking about the "balance of power" situation beginning to develop in the white political arena. I was laughed out of court by most Nationalist Party commentators. The laugh is beginning to sound more hollow as events unfold before us.

The arena of politics is broadening beyond the old boundaries and in that wider arena the policy, philosophy and the role of the PFP is becoming more, not less, relevant.

SOUTH AFRICA

RIVALRY BETWEEN ANC, PC EXPLORED

Johannesburg THE SOWETAN in English 1 Apr 85 p 8

[Article by Thami Mazwai]

[Text]

IF you frown upon the rivalry between the United Democratic Front and Azanian Peoples Organisation then you are probably making a mountain out of a molehill.

This rivalry is a Sunday school picnic compared to the one between the African National Congress (ANC) and Pan Africanist Congress (PAC).

While the one will claim it has nothing to do with the other and is only fighting Pretoria, but beneath this show of unconcerned lies the most intense of rivalries. So intense that even some of the African states feel embarrassed by it.

After the session last Thursday and Friday a week ago of the United Nations Committee Against Apartheid a resolution had to be adopted. While speakers had all been united in their condemnation of apart-

heid, the differences occurred when the resolution had to be adopted.

Behind closed doors — as I later learnt — officials of the committee plus representatives of the two organisations were in a congress. They were debating the full stops, commas and words to be used in the resolution condemning apartheid and calling on the world to take action.

Rivalry

One UN official succinctly put it: "Man! These people of the ANC and PAC are arguing about where to put full stops and commas. And this is a continuing battle."

The United Nations, the rest of the international community and world forums are hunt-

ing ground for the organisations. There is a lot of wheeling and dealing, and the intrigue involving these two organisations is an illustration of the intense rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union.

They vie for the support of just about every pressure group, and some of these pressure groups have thrown in their lot with one or the other. It is a mammoth battle fought every other day.

But being a South African and conscious of the fact that these organisations represent me and millions of other blacks — I found the rivalry most interesting, if not a mite tragic.

The saving grace about this rivalry is that after years of politicking the organisations have at last made one major gain — they can now ignore each other. Their rivalry is not confrontationalist. They pretend that the other does not exist but underneath they work day and night to maintain an edge over the other.

Unusual

It is not unusual to find one of their officials say: "Look, we are concerned with Pretoria and bringing freedom to our people back at home. We do not have time to fight our own brothers and sisters. The oppressor would benefit."

As you stand there and smile with satisfaction that they are now talking like adults, comes the clanger: "But you know, that other group is irrelevant. They do not know whether they are coming or going. Just the other day they made this blinder. Utterly irrelevant."

And that smile of satisfaction is wiped off one's face.

Ironically, this was one of the highlights of my visit to the United Nations. Just talking to as many exiles and refugees as possible. The nostalgia and the longing to come back home was sometimes too much to bear.

The exiles just enjoy

talking to somebody from home, just to hear pretty gossip. Standing there you represent all that is South Africa to them.

Emotion

You are in fact more than South Africa, but Black South Africa. It was emotional.

But, you must watch it. The exiles themselves are in two camps, those supporting the ANC and

those backing the PAC. It is so natural — this taking of sides.

This comes out in arguments — whenever they get together. It is a right royal battle — some with doctorates from Europe's leading universities. Armed with these Phds, they still find time to argue over what the PAC or ANC stands for, and which is the relevant organisation.

CSO: 3400/942

SOUTH AFRICA

UCASA SAYS COUNCILS NOT ENOUGH

Johannesburg THE SOWETAN in English 1 Apr 85 p 2

[Article by Alinah Dube]

[Text]

THE Urban Council Association of South Africa has called on the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, to withdraw his statement that the Black Local Authorities could fulfil the political aspirations of the urban black people.

Mr Steve Kgame, Ucasa president, made this call in a statement released in Pretoria at the weekend.

He was reacting to Mr Botha's comment in a recent TV debate against the Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, Bishop Desmond Tutu.

According to Mr.

Kgame, the Minister's claim that black people had voting rights in the homelands or the black local authorities, had wrong implication. He pointed out that Ucasa was in no way a political organisation and had to be treated as such.

"Ucasa has in the past stated in no uncertain terms that its members are only interested in local government matters and that we have no intentions to regard ourselves as bodies where blacks can exercise their political rights."

"The statement by Mr Botha reflects Govern-

ment thinking that local authorities have been established to meet the political demands of the urban blacks", he said.

Ucasa strongly urged the Government to open up avenues where black people will be able to participate fully in the level higher than that of local authorities. It also stressed the need for Mr Botha to realise the amount of damage and disrepute his statement had caused the organisation and its members and asked him to withdraw and put the allegations in proper perspective.

CSO: 3400/942

SOUTH AFRICA

NEW HOMES FOR MINISTERS OF NEW HOUSE

Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English 24 Mar 85 p 4

[Text]

EIGHT large homes for Ministers and Deputy Ministers in the new House of Delegates have been completed at Pelican Park on the banks of Zeekoevlei, near Cape Town.

Bellandia Homes was awarded the R1,7-million contract in July last year.

The houses were designed by the Department of Community Development in three categories. The first two cover 352 sq m each and the third 280 sq m. The smaller homes are for the deputies.

All units have three bedrooms, a guest suite, a living room, family room, a breakfast area, kitchen, pantry, servant's quarters and a double garage. Some houses also have verandahs.

More news from this very active company in the Cape is that Bellandia has won a R1,1-million contract for a housing project at Ocean View near Kommetjie.

There will be 78 two-bedroom homes built of concrete blocks, with asbestos roofs. The contract is for six months.

CSO: 3400/950

SOUTH AFRICA

BAN LIFTED ON BOOK CONSIDERED EXTREMIST

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 2 Apr 85 p 9

[Text]

THE chairman of South Africa's "new look" Publications Appeal Board, Professor Kobus van Rooyen, yesterday celebrated the start of his third term of office — by lifting the banning on a political book which had been described as a "threat to State security".

Sitting in Pretoria, the board lifted the ban on The Theory of Black Resistance to Apartheid by Dr Mokgethy Motlhabi.

The book, a doctoral thesis by Dr Motlhabi

submitted to Boston University in the US was published by Scotaville Press, Braamfontein, Johannesburg and was summarily banned by a Publications Committee.

The appeal against the banning was argued by Witwatersrand law professor, John Dugard.

Among other things, the book outlines the history of Black power and resistance in South Africa and covers the history of the African National Congress.

According to the Publications Committee it described certain theories which could be practically applied.

The popular 42-year-old Pretoria University law professor, Kobus van Rooyen, has been hailed by academics and others in South Africa as having made an increasingly enlightened breakthrough in his first 10 years as censorship chief towards

more enlightened censorship.

He is the man who, when he was appointed, said: "We have an Act and we are applying it. We don't want to clamp down on knowledge, but on trash . . ."

He sees the Publications Act as being modelled to serve a diversity of interests and as a guarantee to civilised living standards.

Throughout his two previous terms of office, Prof Van Rooyen has determinedly guarded the right of people to criticise the Government — even demands for one man one vote — as long as sabotage, or violence, are not promoted.

While he has shown an increasing tendency to clamp down on senseless violence, he has adopted a far more broadminded and balanced approach to sex and nudity, particularly in films.

CSO: 3400/942

SOUTH AFRICA

SCHOEMAN MOVES TO DEFUSE ROW OVER RAJBANSI

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 2 Apr 85 p 5

[Article by Brian Stuart]

[Text]

THE Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, has agreed to hold discussions with National Peoples Party leader Mr Amichand Rajbansi in an attempt to clear up a controversy which has led to threats of Mr Rajbansi quitting the Cabinet.

Mr Rajbansi told the Citizen "the whole situation has been defused somewhat" Mr Schoeman's willingness to review a decision on an access road to Chatsworth in Durban.

Mr Rajbansi said: "I like him (Mr Schoeman) and we as a caucus don't blame Mr Schoeman for what has happened.

"In any case I would not take so serious a step as to withdraw from the

Cabinet without first discussing the matter with the State President who is a very sincere and dedicated man on the subject of reform in the country."

Mr Rajbansi said an incorrect impression had been created about the threat to withdraw from the Cabinet "simply over a road." He stressed that a matter of principle was involved.

When Chatsworth was developed about 25 years ago the Durban City Council had agreed on an access road which today would serve about 250 000 Indians living in constituencies represented by eight members of

the House of Delegates.

Yet after pressure from a small number of White voters in the Yellow Wood Park area, the Natal Provincial Administration and Durban City Council had rejected the long-standing route for the access road and decided on an alternative route which would have cost about R10-million more," said Mr Rajbansi.

"The principle is that provincial powers should have been transferred to the ministry of the House of Delegates in terms of the constitution and we cannot have a White Minister making decisions that favour about 50

Whites when about 250 000 Indian voters are involved.

"We cannot sit here toothless."

As another example he mentioned the recent opening of a community centre for Indians at Phoenix. Health and welfare were "own affairs" in terms of the new constitution yet the Natal Provincial Administration had not even invited a member of the House of Delegates to attend an issue which rightly belonged to the House of Delegates.

"This is the principle involved. Either we are the responsible ministry or we are irrelevant. It is not just a difference of opinion about a road and general affairs is not simply a White issue."

Mr Rajbansi said the Minister had at first agreed to "the shortest and cheapest" route to Chatsworth, then done an about turn and endorsed the alternative route. "Mr Schoeman spoke to our caucus last Friday and said he would discuss the matter after the Easter recess. We will issue a statement in due course" said Mr Rajbansi.

SOUTH AFRICA

FIRST WHITE MAN JOINS ALL BLACK ZION CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 24 Mar 85 p 15

[Article by Wim Vanvolsem]

[Text]

A 36-YEAR-OLD bachelor has shocked his family and a conservative Northern Transvaal community by becoming the first known white member of Bishop B E Lekganyane's 4,5-million-strong black Zion Christian Church.

Johannes Brits has turned his back on the Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk in Potgietersrus where he grew up. He was baptised in a traditional Zionist ritual a few months ago.

Every Sunday he attends traditional three-hour Zionist church gatherings with hundreds of blacks in Magolereng township near Potgietersrus. During the week he proudly wears the ZCC star on a green piece of cloth on his lapel.

"I have seen the light and found the right path to a clean life for God," he said at his mother's modest house in Pretorius Street this week.

"I used to be a fighter and a smoker and a no-good. But since joining the Zion Christian Church, my life has changed for the better.

Shock

"I feel like a new and better person. I am no longer involved in brawls in town and I have no more racist feelings," he said.

Mr Brits's membership of the church has met with opposition and shock from his family and friends.

His sister does not want to have anything to do with him and his former friends openly mock him in the streets.

His mother, elderly and widowed Mrs Lea Groenewald, said she was shocked at her son's conversion to a black church.

"I am very disappointed in him, although I must admit that he has changed his ways for the better.

"I don't understand why he has to go and sing with the Bantus to achieve that. He is chasing me to my grave," she said.

His sister, Mrs Maria le Cante of Pretoria, does not allow him to visit her.

But Mr Brits is not perturbed. "When my friends ask me to have a drink or when they laugh at me or make remarks I just turn my back on them and walk away," he said. "That is the best."

He said he always had racist feelings, "especially towards the Indians in Potgietersrus", but that had now changed.

"I see things differently now and have peace of mind with every human being," he said.

He said he became inter-

ested in the Zion church by talking to black members at work.

"They told me all about their church and it stirred something inside me. I decided to go and have a look and last year I went to their large Easter gathering at Moria near Boyne, not far from Pietersburg.

"I thought about it for several months and then suddenly it became all clear to me that this was the way. I applied to become a member and was baptised and officially accepted as a brother."

Code

He follows the ZCC ethical code to the letter and does not smoke or drink or eat pork.

He attends their services, conducted in Sesotho, Shangaan, English and Afrikaans at the black Potgietersrus township every Sunday.

"I felt no spiritual satisfaction with the NG church in which I was originally bap-

tised," he said.

He said most of his white friends drank too much.

"My philosophy for life now is that one must always be friendly to all people and not touch liquor. Then you have no troubles," he said.

"In the past I used to swear at the Indians in town. Now I don't swear at all," he said.

Potgietersrus NG church dominee The Rev K Opperman said: "Mr Brits is free to do what he likes in terms of choosing his own church."

Mr Mike Smith, head of the evangelisation commission of the NG's general synod in Pretoria, said he thought Mr Brit's action was "extraordinary".

Sectarian

He said the ZCC had a very high and admirable ethical code.

But on theological grounds, he said, it was difficult to accept the ZCC because it was a sectarian and separatist church based on many ancestral traditions mixed with Old Testament aspects.

He said he found Mr Brits' case unique, as the ZCC enjoyed black popularity by retaining traditional rites and beliefs.

"For a white person to join them is rather unusual, but then I don't know what Mr Brits's personal psychological make-up is," he said.

CSO: 3400/941

SOUTH AFRICA

DESCRIPTION OF AIR ASSAULT BRIGADE TASK FORCE

Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English Mar 85 pp 7, 8

[Article by Colonel James R. Harding]

[Text]

The Air Assault Brigade Task Force is a unique, well-balanced, powerful, and highly flexible fighting force. Representing the combat organization of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), it is composed of 3 infantry battalions; 2 assault helicopter companies (each with 15 UH-60 helicopters); an attack helicopter platoon (with 8 CH-47's); an air cavalry troop; an artillery battalion; and engineer, intelligence, signal, air defense, military police, and combat service support units.

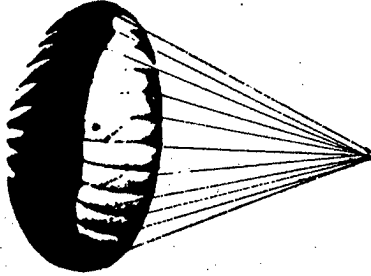



Using organic Army aircraft, the task force can airlift its infantry, artillery, air defense artillery, and most of its combat support and service support units. The task force works best at night, moving quickly — 100 miles per hour — and using not lights but nightvision goggles to focus on deep targets.

Use of this hard-hitting capability requires a mobile, responsive support system. The foundation for this support is provided by the division support command's supply, service, maintenance, and medical forward support companies. These organizations, controlled by the forward area support coordination officer, are usually positioned deep in the brigade sector to avoid battle losses. From this position they take advantage of the unique airlift capabilities of the brigade task force to move supplies and personnel about the battlefield.

A single Black Hawk can easily move 1,000 gallons of fuel, and a CH-47D will deliver over 10 tons of ammunition, food, fuel, or water. Supplies from the division to the brigade support area are best delivered by air; for example, C-130's and C-141's can airdrop or airland supplies configured for direct and immediate air movement forward by task force aviation elements. In some cases, these supplies are delivered directly to the battalion trains by Air Force aircraft.

The focus of the supply effort is to "push" supplies forward. Organic forward area arming and refueling points (FARP's and FARE's), positioned as far forward in a sector as tactically possible, ensure continuous availability of air assets. The FARP's are, in turn, resupplied by direct exchange of 500-gallon blivets from the brigade rear area or division supply points using UH-60 or CH-47 helicopters. Likewise, ammunition is delivered rapidly and directly to fir-

Personnel and equipment of the "heavy" forward jump support team.

Command and Control (2d Brigade S4, FASCO)	Maintenance (801st Maintenance Battalion)	Medical (326th Medical Battalion)	Supply and Service (426th Supply and Service Battalion)
<p>From S4 section</p> <p>3 soldiers 1 M151 with trailer</p> <p>From Forward Area Support Coordinating Office</p> <p>3 soldiers 1 M151 with trailer</p>	<p>Communications-electronics and armament</p> <p>4 soldiers 1 M887 with generator</p> <p>Vehicle and engineering equipment</p> <p>4 soldiers 1 M887</p> <p>Recovery</p> <p>2 soldiers 1 M816 5-ton wrecker</p>	<p>6 soldiers 1 M880 with trailer 1 frontline ambulance 1 UH-60 air ambulance with 4 crewmen</p> 	<p>Class I</p> <p>4 soldiers 1 6,000-pound rough terrain forklift 1 M35A1</p> <p>Class III</p> <p>12 soldiers 1 6,000-pound rough terrain forklift 1 M35A1</p> <p>Class V</p> <p>4 soldiers 1 6,000-pound rough terrain forklift 1 M35A1</p>
  <div> <p>TOTALS:</p> <p>46 soldiers 13 vehicles 1 UH-60 helicopter</p> </div> 			

ing batteries, mortar platoons, and infantry units by helicopter. The responsiveness of these methods provides the manoeuvre commander the flexibility to shift well-supplied combat forces about the battle area.

The division's 2nd Brigade Task Force uses a jump support team (JFST) to further enhance flexibility and responsiveness. This is a task-oriented team of support personnel whose mission is to provide limited commodities and services to support an air assault operation. While mission tailoring is essential, two standard jump team "packages" have been developed and used.

The light package consists of 20 soldiers, 6 vehicles, in addition to petroleum, oils, and lubricants equipment. Totally mobile, it provides ground refueling support; limited receipt, storage, and issue of all supply classes; and limited vehicle, armament, and communications equipment maintenance. "Tailgate" medical services are also provided. This package can be used to provide area support and in-depth support when the brigade sector is wide or when a single infantry battalion is separated from the bulk of the brigade task force.

The heavy JFST package (see chart above) provides ground and air refueling support; fuel blivet exchange; medical evacuation; receipt, storage, and issue of all classes of supply; some vehicle, armament, and communications equipment maintenance; and limited vehicle recovery and transportation services. This package frequently supports the brigade trains. It supports battalion task force operations when a battalion is operating independently or almost independently. It provides a means to disperse supplies and equipment when the enemy air threat is high. It is also a means of phasing support into a new operational area concurrent with manoeuvre forces. The JFST can be formed from personnel and equipment from the division support area. In any case, flexibility, imagination, and continuous coordination with operational planners are essential.

Combat service support in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) is an essential element of a brigade task force. The responsive support provided by the jump forward support teams demonstrates that logistics activities can be carried out efficiently and effectively, even by a small supporting force. Making the most of this efficiency in logistics, the Air Assault Brigade Task Force can fully realise its unique combat capabilities — quickly, day and night, over great distances, and with enviable precision.

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CSO: 3400/960

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

SUPPORT FOR SADF--For almost a decade Armed Forces has been propagating the establishment of an organisation that will support the South African Defence Force, much in the same manner as old established institutions such as the Defence Awareness Association and the United States Army Association do in the United States, while in Australia the Returned Services League often become very involved in setting the record straight when wrong ideas about defence are bandied about. It is with a great deal of satisfaction that we are able to report that a group of retired senior SADF officers and leading personalities have got together in Cape Town and informed the first Chapter of the Military Study Group. No doubt other Chapters will be formed in the Transvaal and Natal. The present members are from a cross section of the community who not only have an interest and experience in matters of a military nature but their knowledge in their chosen professions covers a wide spectrum, including many aspects of our economy. This new organisation has provided this short preliminary description of their principles and intentions. We will be pleased to pass on any enquiries. [Text] [Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English Mar 85 p 5]

MILITARY STUDY GROUP--A Military Study Group has been formed in the Western Cape by a small number of retired officers and other interested persons. Members of the group have an interest in Defence matters. They are conscious of the importance of promoting the image of the SA Defence Force and of its role in ensuring the security of the Republic and stability in Southern Africa. The group is non-political and non-partisan. All members have pledged themselves to support and assist the SA Defence Force by making contact with foreign friends, acquaintances and organisations and placing in perspective the true role of the SA Defence Force in maintaining peace and security in South and Southern Africa. The group will arrange to receive and entertain overseas visitors and to discuss matters of military interest with them. The group will liaise with other organisations which may wish to avail themselves of its services. It is possible that similar groups will be established in other centres of the Republic in due course. [Text] [Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English Mar 85 p 5]

R4--M THUNDER CHARIOT--Parliament--The direct cost of exercise Thunder Chariot to the SA Defence Force last year was R4,3 million, the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, said this week. The balance of the total cost of R24,6 million would have been spent in any event on the yearly training exercises of the participating units, he said in reply to a question by the leader of the Opposition, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert. Direct costs included the daily allowances and rations of permanent force members, printing and publications, travelling and catering costs for guests, fuel and lubricants, ammunition and transport of personnel and equipment. General Malan said it had cost R375 000 for the repair of vehicles and equipment damaged in the exercise. Answering earlier questions by Dr Slabbert in the session, General Malan said it had cost R90 000 to plan exercise Thunder Chariot. [Text] [Johannesburg THE SOWETAN in English 28 Mar 85 p 4]

CSO: 3400/941

SWAZILAND

BHEKIMPI TO SUPPORT NIGER'S OUMAROU FOR OAU POST

MB091724 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, today received a message from Niger's president, General Seyni Kountche, seeking support for the appointment of Niger's foreign minister, Mr Ide Oumarou, as secretary general of the OAU. The message was delivered to the prime minister on behalf of President Kountche by Niger's ambassador to Ethiopia, Mr Abodu Mallam Mousa.

Receiving the message, Prince Bhekimpi assured the envoy that Swaziland will abide by the resolutions of the OAU to elect the secretary general. The Kingdom of Swaziland, said Prince Bhekimpi, will support Niger's candidate for the OAU's secretary general's post, and this will depend to the majority of the OAU members. Prince Bhekimpi said the message from President Kountche symbolizes that Swaziland is greatly appreciated by the OAU, and Swaziland is quite aware of the problem faced by the organization to elect the secretary general. He said the OAU is a continental family organization which groups together African countries to pursue one goal. The prime minister said due to the element of mistrust in the OAU, the organization has on several occasions failed to elect the secretary general. Prince Bhekimpi said he does not know what will happen this year during the OAU summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Delivering the message, the Niger's envoy to Ethiopia said President Kountche is sure that his foreign minister will play a leading role for the OAU. Mr Abodu Mallam Mousa said his country's foreign minister is a strong man and will do a good job and serve the interests of the OAU.

CSO: 3400/971

SWAZILAND

FOREIGN MINISTER MNISI INTERVIEWED IN UK

MB041308 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 0512 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Swaziland's foreign minister, the Honorable Mhambi Mnisi, is visiting in Britain as a guest of that country's government. He has met ministers, including Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, and has also visited a farm and met industrialists. Towards the end of what is generally acknowledged to have been a very successful visit, James Locke asked him what message he had brought for the foreign secretary.

[Begin recording] [Mnisi] Well, we were really interested to reassure Great Britain that the friendship which existed during the time of the late King Sobhuze II definitely would continue between Great Britain and Swaziland; and we also wanted to assure Great Britain that whatever takes place in Southeastern Africa, as we are part and parcel of that area, definitely, we are trying our best to make that part of the world as peaceful as possible because a number of things are taking place in that part of the region and everybody is worried about what is going on, well, about the relationship between the various countries in that part of the world. So we wanted to assure Great Britain that Swaziland was still following a policy of good neighborliness with our friends, and trying whatever we can in order to help them out through all the difficulties which we are experiencing in that part of the region.

[Locke] With that background, how would you in fact characterize the relationship between Swaziland and Britain at the moment?

[Mnisi] Well, the relationship between Swaziland and Great Britain is really very, very good indeed, and Great Britain is also trying her best to see to it that Swaziland should play a major role towards the stability of that area. And we are really grateful to Great Britain for her help on that score, and we can assure Great Britain that definitely, Swaziland will try her best to improve the general situation and conditions of that part of the region.

[Locke] I believe you met Britain's overseas development minister, Timothy (Rayson). When you met him were you able to discuss the progress of the Big Bend Bridge building project which Britain is helping with?

[Mnisi] Yest, he was really sympathetic with our problems which we had concerning Cyclone Domoina, and again we were really impressed because when Cyclone

Domoina attacked Swaziland, Great Britain was the first country to come to our rescue. She supplied us with technical experts who did a valuable job and also with road engineers. Materially we got the road-building bridges [as heard] and again Great Britain promised to help us with the Big Bend Bridge, and that was very kind of Great Britain. My country valued that help from Great Britain, and we are also looking forward to that she might be of great help to us with other aspects of our economical development in Swaziland.

[Locke] Now you especially asked to visit a (?food) farm. Did anything come out of that visit which might be useful to agriculture in Swaziland?

[Mnisi] Yes, indeed. We enjoyed our stay with the Taylor's there. We learned a lot about how they got about with their crops, the machinery for agriculture which they use there, and as a mixed farm we were really impressed to see how they go about with the crops together with their animals, because I for one as a farmer myself, I am interested in mixed farming so I gained a lot of valuable information from Tom Taylor and his family. Indeed when I looked at the manner they raise the cattle, I was really impressed. So I would sincerely hope that with the information I have gained from them, I will be able to impart it to my people at home so that they could also be able to carry out mixed farming on their farms.

[Locke] Honorable foreign minister, what impression generally of Britain in the 1980's will you be taking back with you when you return to Swaziland very soon?

[Mnisi] Well, I have been greatly impressed with Great Britain. I remember the first time I came here I found that Great Britain was under the problems of unemployment. Now I was really impressed to see that Great Britain has tackled that problem very, very successfully as far as we are concerned because this problem has not only befallen Great Britain alone. The whole world has been affected by it. The same thing with Swaziland. We had a number of firms and our business people leaving the country looking for green pastures in South Africa and so forth, so with the knowledge we have gained from Britain, definitely we shall be able to talk to our business investors in the near future and try and encourage them with incentives so that they could be able also to bear the burden with us in Swaziland. We are quite aware that the recession has hit the world very, very hard, but with the knowledge we have gained from Great Britain we will be able to sustain the problems which were brought by the recession in the world.

[Locke] Foreign minister, thank you very much indeed. [End recording]

CSO: 3400/971

SWAZILAND

BRIEF

FARMING AID DISCUSSED--The minister for agriculture and cooperatives, Mr Hezekiel Mamba, has told his South African counterpart that due weight must be given to the problems of food supply, with the ultimate goal being to improve the living standards of the peoples of both countries. He said that his ministry was still busy with detailed preparations for projects which would be submitted to South Africa for assistance. Mr Mamba was speaking a few minutes ago, at a dinner in his honor by the South African agriculture minister at the Mount Nelson Hotel in Cape Town. He said that in the Southern African subregion, drought had shattered the hopes of the farmer and the government and had brought distress to the people. Mr Mamba said the consumption of yellow maize in the absence of white maize had ushered a big cry among the Swazi people. The minister left the country yesterday on a brief visit to South Africa.
[Text] [Mbabane Television Service in English 1815 GMT 10 Apr 85 MB]

CSO: 3400/971

TANZANIA

SINOTASHIP VESSELS MODERNIZED

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 22 Mar 85 p 3

[Article by Daniel Mshana]

[Text] Three conventional vessels owned by the Chinese-Tanzania Joint Shipping Company (SINOTASHIP) have been converted into container cargo vessels under a modernisation programme already underway.

SINOTASHIP General Manager Nicas Buhatwa said in Dar es Salaam that the vessels--mv Ruvu, Shinyu and Pinggu--were now carrying containers and break-bulk cargo.

He said his company decided to phase out conventional vessels which were designed to carry dry cargo due to increased use of containers in shipping business.

The programme was deliberately undertaken during this time when there was clearly recorded slump in shipping business occasioned by deteriorating world economic trade, he pointed out.

The exercise was also aimed at getting rid of unnecessary and unqualified crew in order to enhance the performance of the company.

Ndugu Buhatwa further disclosed that discussions were going on with shipbrokers to buy a modern vessel which would replace the aged mv Chamwino.

The General Manager, who recently returned from the People's Republic of China, also said that SINOTASHIP signed an agreement with the insurance company of China to cover losses of cargo as well as war risks.

He said this would provide more security to the shipping company which occasionally faced stiff competition from established conference lines which had control of a large chunk of shipping trade.

Under the agreement, assessment would also be made to see if the company can benefit when there was insufficient cargo as the insurance has been extended to cover "seating losses".

Meanwhile, the General Manager said senior officials of the company would visit the Gulf states shortly to assess the possibility of using the firm's vessels to carry cargo from the area to Zanzibar.

This is in response to a call last December by Vice-President Ali Hassan Mwinyi who suggested that the firm's vessels should be used to haul Tanzania-bound cargo from the Gulf States.

He said although such plans were already underway, implementation was delayed because his Chinese counterpart, Ndugu Fang Qiang Gong, had fallen sick.

Ndugu Mwinyi said last year that although many Zanzibaris wanted to buy various goods from the Gulf states, they were unable to do so because of transport snags.

He said those who managed to air freight them paid very high tariffs.

SINOTASHIP's four vessels do not call at the Gulf ports.

CSO: 3400/946

TANZANIA

MAIZE SEED IMPORTED FROM ZIMBABWE

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 16 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] The first consignment of 90 tonnes of hybrid maize seed from Zimbabwe has arrived in Arusha by road and another 60 tonnes are on the way, Shihata reported.

An official of the Arusha-based Tanzania Seed Company (TANSEED) said yesterday that a total of 600 tonnes of maize seed, worth 10.5/- in foreign exchange were being imported from Zimbabwe to supplement locally grown hybrid seed.

He said the 600 tonnes which were already in Mbeya were being hauled by lorries to Arusha for distribution to the main maize growing areas in Arusha and Kilimanjaro regions. The whole lot is expected in by the end of this month, he said.

The official also told Shihata that TANSEED was now processing the importation of 650 tonnes of maize seed from Kenya at a cost of 9m/-.

He said the Kenya Seed Company had lifted a ban to export seed imposed last year as a result of drought. Four hundred tonnes are of variety 632 and the remaining 250 tonnes are of variety 622.

With the importation of seed from both Zimbabwe and Kenya, there would be enough seed for the farmers in the northern zone and some would be stocked for next year, the official said.

TANSEED distributes the seed through its stockists, the Tanganyika Farmers' Association and the regional and district agricultural offices. The Kilimanjaro Native Co-operative Union also acts as an agent in Kilimanjaro Region.

Meanwhile, it has been learned that investigations have started on complaints by farmers in Hanang and Mbulu districts that maize seed sold by TANSEED was not good because of poor germination.

Early this month, Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) in Arusha Region called on TANSEED to look into complaints. The Regional Party Executive Committee had directed TANSEED to reimburse the peasants. The committee also advised the peasants to use their own seed instead of waiting for supplies from TANSEED.

TANZANIA

YOUTH URGED TO SOLVE CONTINENT'S PROBLEMS

Dar es Salaam SUNDAY NEWS in English 17 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Lucas Liganga]

[Text]

THE Pan African Youth Movement (PYM) has been urged to seriously address itself to questions affecting the African youth.

In addition the PYM should, now more than ever before, be able to involve itself in such crucial issues as youths rights and youth development.

Closing the PYM sixth General Conference at the Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC) here yesterday, the head of department of Ideology, Political Education and Training of the Party National Executive Committee (NEC) Secretariat Ndugu Kingunge Ngombale-Mwiru said by so doing the youth would be able to find appropriate solutions to the problems such as hunger, ignorance and disease plaguing the continent.

He said: "You must make sure that the PYM, far from being a democratic set up concerned with issues of protocol and usage, becomes a true instrument of the youth of Africa for their development".

By engaging itself fully in this

the continental youth movement would win the hearts of millions of young men and women in Africa, he said.

Ndugu Ngombale-Mwiru told the youth that the struggle for total liberation of the African continent also should be the central theme of PYM efforts.

Such efforts, he added, should go hand in hand with more emphasis placed on the correct analysis of imperialist manoeuvres.

Meanwhile, the youth of Africa have reaffirmed their commitment to play a leading role in consolidating the continent's independence, unity and development, *Shihata* reported.

The youths stressed that Africa's vulnerability to some political, cultural or economic aggressions called for them to increase their vigilance.

They noted that the continent which was now experiencing many political problems had shown maturity by showing unity.

The Conference commended the Organisation of African Unity

(OAU) for consolidating unity in the face of several problems which had threatened to wreck the organisation.

This, they pointed out, was possible because of the wisdom and intelligence of its leaders who could overcome such divisions.

On South Africa, the conference hailed efforts by the African National Congress (ANC) at organising the South African people with a view to making them participate actively in the liberation struggle.

They demanded the correct application of global mandatory economic sanctions against the apartheid regime and denounced the diplomatic, military and economic collaboration between South Africa and Israel.

The youths resolved to support the intensification of the armed struggle for the Namibian independence in view of the failure of international initiatives due to lack of will in South Africa for a dialogue with Namibian patriots.

The conference expressed support to the Frontline States and condemned the aggression perpetrated against these countries.

CSO: 3400/945

TANZANIA

BRIEFS

GDR TEAM IN DAR--A three-man delegation from the Socialist Unity Party of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), arrived in Dar es Salaam yesterday for a six-day official visit to Tanzania at the invitation of Party. The delegation, led by First Secretary of the Central Committee (SED), Hans-Joachim Hertwig from Frankfurt/Oder, was scheduled to hold talks later yesterday with the head of the Department of Ideology, Political Education and Training of the Party National Executive Committee of CCM Secretariat, Ndugu Kingunge Ngombale-Mwiru, Shihata reported. Others in the delegation are the head of the Africa section of the SED, Dr. Siegfried Buettner and head of training section responsible for Africa, Joachim Kindler. The delegation will today visit the Ubungo Farm Implements (UFI) factory Party Branch and will later proceed to Coast Region where it will tour Pangani village and the Kibaha Education Centre in Kibaha District. It will later go to Dodoma where it will meet Prime Minister Salim Ahmed Salim and deliver a message from GDR President Erich Honecker to President Nyerere. Ndugu Salim will receive the message for Mwalimu who is currently on a state visit in Britain. The delegation will go to Zanzibar on Thursday for a working tour and return to Dar es Salaam on the same day. Official talks between the two parties will resume on Friday and the two sides are expected to sign a protocol of co-operation for 1985. The delegation leaves for Uganda on Saturday. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 19 Mar 85 p 1]

KIMARIO WARNS SOLDIERS--The Minister of Defence and National Service Brigadier Muhidin Kimario has said that the government will take harsh measures against soldiers who involve themselves in stealing army money or equipment including those who misused army vehicles. Speaking to commanders and soldiers of the Mbalizi People's Defence Unit in Mbeya yesterday, the Minister said that more than 200m/- have been stolen from different army stations in Mwanza, Tabora, Shinyanga and Lindi, Shihata reported. The minister said the Government would try its best to supply the soldiers with their most essential needs but it was up to them to take care of the equipment they were supplied with. The Minister urged the soldiers to go back to the traditions, customs and rules of the army. He said a number of problems facing it now were because army discipline was not followed. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 18 Mar 85 p 1]

KOREAN EXPERTS COMMENDED--Agricultural experts from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) have been commended for their contribution in modernising agriculture in Iringa Region. Speaking at a farewell ceremony held at Maguliwa Village in honour of out-going Korean experts, the Iringa

Regional Party Secretary, Ndugu Athanase Kwilasa, said through Korean assistance Maguliwa Village had been transformed from a permanent hunger stricken village to one of the leading maize producing villages in the region. The Korean experts had been stationed at the village for the past five years. Maguliwa village in 1979/80 cultivated 20 acres and harvested 18 bags equivalent to 19 kgs per acre but during the 1983/84 the village harvested some 6,500 bags from a 44-hectare maize farm. During the 1984/85, Maguliwa Village expects a harvest of 1,616 bags of wheat from their 202-hectare farm worth 165,000/-. It also expects to harvest 300 bags of sunflower worth 90,000/- from a 32-hectare shamba. The Regional Party Secretary noted that such achievements could not have been reached without guidance and supervision of the Korean experts. He challenged the village leadership to carry on from where the experts had left. The Korean experts, apart from supervision farm work, have also established a weather forecasting station. They have also fabricated various artisanship tools for a village level workshop. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 21 Mar 85 p 3]

CSO: 3400/945

ZIMBABWE

EXPORTS BID BY BOTSWANA DOUBTFUL OF SUCCESS

Harare THE HERALD in English 29 Mar 85 p 1

[Text]

A TOP-LEVEL Botswana delegation visited Harare last week in a bid to increase textile and clothing exports to Zimbabwe but local sources were this week doubtful about their chances of success.

The Ministry of Trade and Commerce would only confirm that discussions had been held with the delegation and "problem areas are still being looked into", but the Central African Textile Manufacturers' Association said it would not support any easing of restrictions on textile imports from Botswana.

Earlier this year legislation was passed to tighten up on importation of textiles and clothing. This was to ensure that items could not be imported under open general import licences unless they met a 25 percent local content criterion, including labour and raw materials.

Botswana has not always been able to meet this criterion and a recent issue of the Gaborone weekly, Business Ga-

zette, reported that as a result "20 million pula worth of annual exports and over 1 000 jobs" were at stake in Botswana.

Last week's meeting in Harare was held at the request of Botswana and the visiting delegation included officials from the ministries of finance, commerce and industry, the Department of Customs and Excise, the Attorney - General's chambers and the Department of External Affairs.

Mr Dennis Kennedy, co-ordinating officer of Catma, said yesterday that tightening restrictions on imports from Botswana had become necessary to protect local industry from "unfair competition".

Concessions

He pointed out that Botswana companies had lower operating costs, received a wide variety of concessions from the government and could get what they liked in the way of essential imports for synthetics. Whereas "local industry now gets 40 percent of the currency it received for imports last year", he said.

As a result, products

from Botswana were cheaper and this, coupled with reduced local spending power because of drought and recession, had put many local companies in the position of either having to close down or go on to short-time working.

He said employment in local industry was now 84 percent of the 18 000 employed in the peak year of 1982, while output volumes were 64 percent of their 1982 levels.

Mr Kennedy said that although there was "an air of optimism in the industry, it is just an air at the moment. The industry is still making losses and it will take some time before we feel the full benefits of increased consumer spending power because of the end of the drought".

Other industry sources claimed the main reason Botswana was unable to meet the 25 percent limit was because it did minimal processing of raw materials it imported before exporting them.

Some also expressed concern about the fact that most of the companies seemed to be South African owned and could be seen as fronts to enable the apartheid regime to break through into the PTA market.

CSO: 3400/951

ZIMBABWE

HOPES FOR EXTENDING PAKISTAN COOPERATION

Harare THE HERALD in English 26 Mar 85 p 5

[Excerpt]

THROUGH close liaison and discussion Zimbabwe wants to see more areas of possible co-operation with Pakistan identified, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cde Witness Mangwende, said yesterday.

Speaking at a reception in Harare to mark Pakistan's national day, the minister expressed the hope that the close friendship the two countries shared would continue to deepen.

The co-operation had taken place on a variety of levels. "The many training programmes generously provided by Pakistan for Zimbabweans employed in both Government and parastatal institutions have led to a marked improvement in the functional efficiency on these vital sectors and have been of immeasurable benefit to the nation."

Turning to problems in Southern Africa, Cde Mangwende said the deliberate, unprovoked killing of

innocent civilians in Uitenhage by racist South African police last week clearly shows that the regime had lost none of its barbarism.

Almost all the problems facing the region were a result of South Africa's hostile activities as it manoeuvred both within its borders and throughout the entire sub-region to protect and defend its vile policy of apartheid.

"We reject them totally and will not be swayed from our chosen course. Apartheid is an evil and it must, and indeed will be overcome."

Zimbabwe and Pakistan shared the same concern at the rising level of international tension and the race by the world's major powers for military superiority, Cde Mangwende said.

Both countries were determined to see the resources being used in the arms race redirected towards development projects to alleviate misery

and poverty in developing countries.

Pakistan's Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Cde Anwar Khan, said his country enjoyed the best of relationships with Zimbabwe.

"Pakistan came forward with technical assistance in the fields of defence, health, telecommunications and transport," he said and the two countries looked at international problems as human problems "needing a healing touch of friendship and sympathy". That was why the two countries had voted on the same side in the United Nations.

CSO: 3400/944

ZIMBABWE

DUTCH OFFER OF TOP EXPERTISE

Harare THE HERALD in English 28 Mar 85 "Business Herald Supplement p 3

[Text]

ZIMBABWEAN companies have been invited to make use of a Dutch service aimed at making experienced managerial skills available to them for a minimum outlay.

Mr Bob Hammeleers, one of the more than 400 managers from 51 different sectors available for service in developing countries, this week explained that the Netherlands management consultancy programme for developing countries (NMCP) was similar to, but not in competition with, personnel development programmes offered by other industrialised countries.

Established in the late 1970s by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs Development Aid and two central employers' federations NMCP recruits retired captains of industry, leading technical experts and top managers who are keen to spend anything between two and six months advising companies in developing countries on how to solve specific managerial and technical problems.

NMCP pays for air travel, insurance, clothing

and "pocket money" allowances for both the executive and his wife, while the company which has asked for the executive's help bears the local costs of board and lodging, transport and office facilities.

As a result, the developing country company need spend no valuable foreign exchange; and if a company is really not able to meet local costs, the Dutch government will, in certain circumstances, pick up the bill.

Mr Hammeleers said preference was given to requests from small to medium sized companies which were unable to obtain professional advice on a commercial basis, and the consultants could give advice on all aspects of general management, finance and banking, production accounting and auditing, technical and maintenance matters in all sectors of trade, industry and commerce.

Companies wishing to make use of the service should contact the Dutch Embassy in Harare or NMCP direct c/o NCW, P.O. Box 84100, The Hague, Netherlands.

CSO: 3400/951

ZIMBABWE

TRAINING PROGRAMS TO HELP AFRICAN FARMERS STEPPED UP

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 24 Mar 85 p 5

[Text]

ZIMBABWE is training people from Eastern and Southern Africa to help increase peasant farming production in the area.

Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region in the world where per capita food production is going down and it is hoped that through a series of training courses, farming researchers in the region can develop better technology relevant to small-scale farmers with limited resources, the director of the training programme on farming systems research, Mr Mandivamba Rukuni, said.

Since 1983 Zimbabwe has trained more than 150 people from countries in the region. It is expected that about 70

people will be trained this year.

A training workshop last month was attended by people from Botswana, Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Pakistan. The second training programme for this year is expected to be held in September. Previous programmes have included people from Burkina Faso, Lesotho and Somalia.

Mr Rukuni, who is a lecturer in agricultural economics in the Department of Land Management at the University of Zimbabwe, says technology developed in Zimbabwe and elsewhere has produced higher yield varieties. But

this technology has not reached small-scale peasant farmers because most of the results it produced is relevant to commercial farmers.

"We must develop a new strategy of agricultural research, and to do so we must first of all understand the peasant sector system . . . agricultural researchers must go out to the areas and treat farmers as if they were patients. They must understand them and identify their problems because it is no use experimenting at the research station then the farmers will not adopt the technology because of their different conditions."

The workshops are organised by the University of Zimbabwe and the

International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre.

CIMMYT and the United States International Agency for Development are backing the training programme for three years, concentrating on training nationals working in agricultural institutions in the region.

Mr Rukuni said there were an estimated 10 000 expatriates working in sub-Saharan Africa on agriculture-related projects and they were being paid close to \$100 000 each to keep them on the continent each year.

"It is our mandate to train people from these African countries to be able to cope with their own small-scale peasant farmers who have been neglected in the past."

CSO: 3400/944

ZIMBABWE

MANGWENDE SALUTES CATHOLIC CHURCH ROLE IN STRUGGLE

Harare THE HERALD in English 28 Mar 85 p 13

[Text]

ZIMBABWE is grateful to the Catholic Church for its role in the independence struggle, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Witness Mangwende, said yesterday.

Speaking at a luncheon in Harare to bid farewell to the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio of the Holy See, Archbishop Francesco Colasuonno, Cde Mangwende said the church had revealed to the international community the atrocities of the Smith regime on defenceless civilians.

He thanked the priests who had sacrificed their lives for Zimbabwe's cause.

He noted that before independence 80 percent of African education was in the hands of the Catholic Church. One out of four secondary schools had belonged to the church while over 50 percent of the 118 church-run rural hospitals

and clinics had been under its control.

Cde Mangwende said the role of the church had now changed to one of working in close-cooperation with the Government to provide essential services instead of battling or competing with it as in the past.

The church should reflect the socialist ideals of the people it served and Zimbabwe was confident that the growing friendship between the two would continue to be without friction.

Archbishop Colasuonno, leaves to take up another appointment in Yugoslavia after four years in Zimbabwe.

The archbishop, who was based in Mozambique before he came to Zimbabwe, said it was through his contacts with the local leaders before independence that the Pope had been informed of the real situation in the country.

CSO: 3400/951

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

PLO ENVOY MESSAGE TO MUGABE---A special envoy of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Cde Samir Baker, has met the Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, and praised Zimbabwe's role in support of the struggle of the Palestinian people. "I came to deliver a special message to Cde Mugabe from the PLO chairman, Yasser Arafat, in recognition of the role Zimbabwe is playing within the Non-Aligned Movement in support of the Palestinian struggle," he told The Herald. The PLO needed the support of "all the Arab countries and our brothers in the Non-Aligned Movement to force the United States government to accept the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, with the right to self-determination and to establish an independent state on Palestinian soil". Cde Baker, who left Harare for Lagos on Sunday, said the PLO-Jordanian agreement was not an attempt to find a separate solution to the Middle East problems, but was a step towards creating an Arab counter-weight to the policies of the US government in the region. [Excerpt] [Harare THE HERALD in English 26 Mar 85 p 5]

IRANIAN ASBESTOS PURCHASES---Iranian imports of Zimbabwean steel and tobacco totalled \$16 million last year and the country is now working on securing an order for \$20 million worth of Zimbabwean asbestos. The country's Charge d'Affaires here, Mr Mustafa Aghaie, told newsmen yesterday that Iran was ready to buy all sheep hides that Zimbabwe could export. Purchase of Zimbabwean cigarettes was also under consideration, he said adding that the quantity of steel and tobacco bought from Zimbabwe would be increased "very much" this year. He expressed optimism that the existing trade volume would be further boosted by the signing of an envisaged economic, cultural and scientific cooperation agreement. Plans were already afoot and provision had been made for a Zimbabwean trade delegation to visit Iran soon. [Text] [Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 24 Mar 85 p 2]

CSO: 3400/944

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